Original Work: Kenji Inoue
Art: Mattakumousuke and Yumeuta
Character Design: Yui Haga

13

BAKA & TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS

DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET PAST BALDY AND CLEAR CLASS D.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU TWO.
第66問
QUESTION 66
...NO PROB.
...WE'LL SHOW THAT BALDY THE TRUE MEANING OF FEAR.

QUESTION 66
第66問
BAKA & TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS
Original Work: Kenji Inoue Art: Mattakumousuke and Yumeuta
Character Design: Yui Haga

QUESTION.66
第66問
BAKA
&TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS
Original Work: Kenji Inoue Art: Mattakumousuke and Yumeuta
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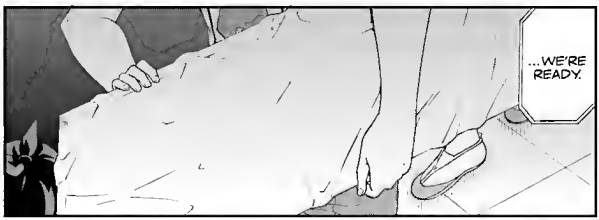
OKAY, GUYS!! THAT HORRIFIC IMAGE IS ABOUT TO COME UP!!
LADIES, CLOSE YOUR EYES!!

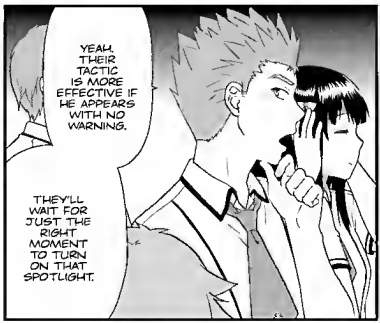
IF TSUCHIYA AND MISS KUDOU FAIL, OUR ONLY OPTION FOR RESISTANCE ...
...WILL BE TO SEND AKIHISA IN DRESSED IN CUTE, GIRLY CLOTHES...
Y-YEAH, IT'S THE ONLY WAY.
WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.

UH, YOU'RE ONLY PROPOSING THAT WHACKED-OUT PLAN 'CAUSE YOU'VE LOST YOUR HEADS TO FEAR... RIGHT?
YOU DON'T HONESTLY WANT TO DRESS ME UP LIKE THAT... RIGHT?

...
I PREFER TO THINK THAT THEY'RE NOT RESPONDING 'CAUSE THEIR EYES AND EARS ARE COVERED.

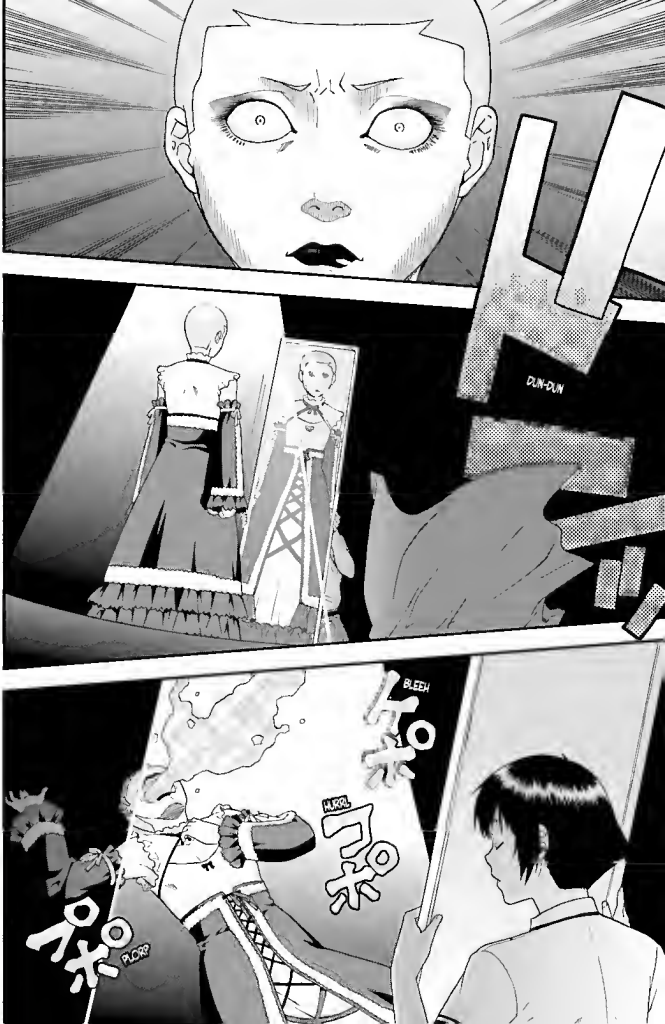
WHERE WAS IT AGAIN, MUTTSU-LINI? THROUGH THERE?
IS THAT WHERE THAT SILLY-WILLY IS WAITING?
CAMERA 2


...WE'RE READY.


YEAH, THEIR TACTIC IS MORE EFFECTIVE IF HE APPEARS WITH NO WARNING.
THEY'LL WAIT FOR JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT TO TURN ON THAT SPOTLIGHT.

OOH, IT'S PITCH BLACK AGAIN.

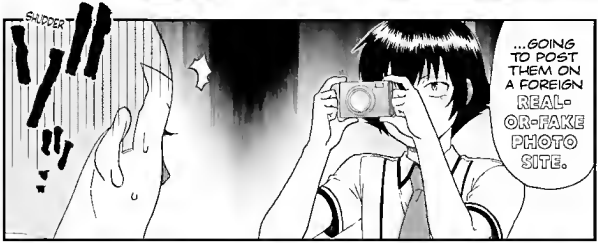
GULP
Y-YEAH ...!!
ANY SECOND NOW.
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
IT'S COMING ...!!
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
BAM


DUN-DUN
BLEEH
GURGL
PLOP

...NO SHAME IN VOMITING FROM THAT SIGHT.
IT'S A NATURAL HUMAN REACTION.
YOU MADE ME BLOW CHUNKS, MAN!!
Y-YOU BASTARD!! HOW DARE YOU MAKE ME LOOK AT THAT?!
NO WONDER THE GUYS WHO DRESSED ME UP REFUSED TO LET ME SEE THE MIRROR...
DAMMIT!! I KNEW IT WOULD BE FREAKY, BUT IT'S EVEN MORE DISGUSTING THAN I COULD HAVE IMAGINED...
HEY, HOLD UP!! ISN'T THAT FLAT-OUT REJECTING ME IN THIS LIFE?!
AND THE NEW ME IS ALREADY RELEGATED TO BEING JUST AN ACQUAIN-TANCE?!
THIS GUY'S KINDA FUNNY, AIN'T HE, MUTTSU-LIN!?
CAN'T HELP BUT MAYBE WANNA BE ACQUAINTANCES WITH HIM IN THE NEXT LIFE.

WHY THE HELL ARE YOU SNAPPING PICS OF THIS TERRIFYING GETUP?!
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA !!

SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOU DID!!
OH, SORRYYYY. I DIDN'T REALLY MEAN ANYTHING BAD BY THAT, PUKE-FACE.


SHUDDER
...GOING TO POST THEM ON A FOREIGN REAL-OR-FAKE PHOTO SITE.

SHE ALMOST MADE BALDY CRY.
MAN, I DIDN'T REALIZE KUDOU WAS SO SHARP-TONGUED.

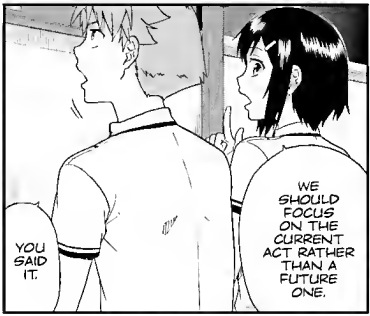
N-NO WAY, MAN!!
I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS !!
DASH
CAMERA 2

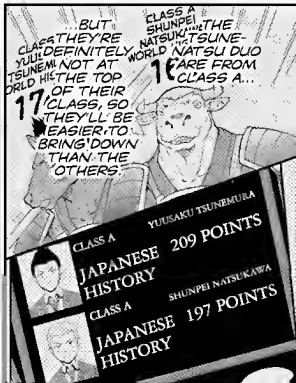
COME TO THINK OF IT, I SAW KUDOU CONFERRING WITH SHIMIZU BEFORE GOING IN.
SOMEBODY MUST'VE FED HER THAT ONE, THEN.
..THE AIKO I KNOW COULD NEVER COME UP WITH AN INSULT LIKE THAT.
KUDOU'S OWN CONTRIBUTION TO OUR ANTI-BALDY PLAN, HUH?
THAT EXPLAINS IT. THAT KIND OF ABUSIVE INSULT IS PART OF HER EVERYDAY VOCABULARY.
I BET WE'RE JUST ABOUT TO HIT THE CHECKPOINT.
..MOVE FORWARD.
CAMERA 2

CAMERA 2
HUH? I THOUGHT FOR SURE BALDY WOULD SHOW AT THE CHECKPOINT.

CAMERA 2

BESIDES, WE ISSUED HIM THAT CHALLENGE.
HE'LL HAVE TO TAKE US UP ON IT.
THERE AREN'T EXACTLY ANY RULES ABOUT WHO I HAS TO BE AT WHICH CHECKPOINT.
HE'LL PROBABLY SHOW UP AT CLASS A'S OR CLASS C'S.


YOU SAID IT.
WE SHOULD FOCUS ON THE CURRENT ACT RATHER THAN A FUTURE ONE.

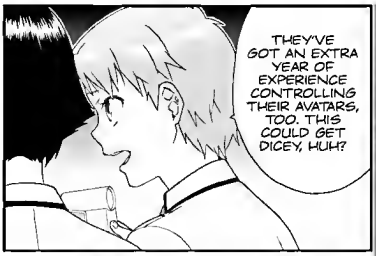

CLASS A YUUJI TSUNEMURA'S WORLD HISTORY 17
...BUT THEY'RE DEFINITELY NOT AT THE TOP OF THEIR CLASS, SO THEY'LL BE EASIER TO BRING DOWN THAN THE OTHERS.
CLASS A SHUNPEI NATSUKAWA'S WORLD HISTORY 17
THE TSUNE-NATSU DUO ARE FROM CLASS A...
CLASS A YUUSAKU TSUNEMURA
JAPANESE HISTORY 209 POINTS
CLASS A SHUNPEI NATSUKAWA
JAPANESE HISTORY 197 POINTS

FWOOOO
SUMMON--
WONDER HOW COME KUDOU'S AVATAR IS A NOPPERA-BOU?
A NO-FACE GHOST... LET'S SEE...
MAYBE IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH HOW SHE NEVER SHOWS HER TRUE FACE.
SO THE WAY KUDOU SAYS SUGGESTIVE STUFF ON A DAILY BASIS MIGHT BE A MASK TO HIDE HER TRUE SELF?
SHE ALWAYS SEEMS CHEERFUL, BUT MAYBE SHE ACTUALLY HAS A TRAGIC PAST.
IT'S POSSIBLE SOMETHING BAD HAPPENED IN HER FAMILY, OR SOMETHING ALONG THOSE LINES--

I WANT MY CONCERN BACK.
APPARENTLY, WHEN THE NO-FACE ENCOUNTERS A HUMAN, THEY STRIP NAKED.
ACTUALLY, I REMEMBER RESEARCHING GHOST STORIES TO FIND POSSIBLE MATERIAL FOR A PLAY...
AND THERE WAS THIS ANECDOTE ABOUT NO-FACES.
CLASS A KENICHI NANAMI HEALTH 307
CLASS A RYOUTAROU ICHIHARA HEALTH 303
HWOOOO

YUP. WHICH MAKES THEM THAT MUCH EASIER TO PREDICT.
NOT THAT OURS ARE ANY DIFFERENT, BUT THEIR MONSTERS ARE PRETTY OBVIOUS.

FRANKEN-STEIN'S MONSTER AND A MUMMY MAN...
SO WHAT MAKES THESE GUYS SPECIAL IS PROBABLY... ONE GETS HURT EASILY AND THE OTHER IS SECRETLY SOFT-HEARTED.


THEY'VE GOT AN EXTRA YEAR OF EXPERIENCE CONTROLLING THEIR AVATARS, TOO. THIS COULD GET DICEY, HUH?

HEY, MUTTSULIN!? THEIR AVATARS SEEM PRETTY STRONG.

...OH, THEY'RE STRONG ...

CLASS A
AIKO KUDOU
HEALTH
479
BAM
CLASS F
KOUTA TSUCHIYA
HEALTH
557

YOU SAID IT.

...BUT THEY'VE GOT NOTHING ON US.

KOOOM

WHUMP
DUDE, YUUJI. COULD YOU FIGURE OUT WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
YEAH. BUT IT WAS ALL A BLUR TO ME, MIND YOU.
THE VAMPIRE TRANSFORMED INTO A WOLF IN AN INSTANT, CLAWED UP FRANKEN-STEIN'S MONSTER, THEN TRANS-FORMED BACK INTO HUMAN FORM.
TERRIFYING... SUCH SPEED...
'KAY. WHAT ABOUT THE NO-FACE?
AGAIN, IT WAS ALL A BLUR TO ME.

I DON'T GET IT... WHY DID SHE NEED TO STRIP...?
SHE STRIPPED NAKED IN AN INSTANT, BEAT UP THE MUMMY MAN, THEN PUT HER CLOTHES BACK ON.

THE SHEER DEDICATION OF THIS LECHER...
PAYING ATTENTION TO A NAKED FORM EVEN WHILE SHOWERING THE ENEMY WITH ATTACKS...
MEANWHILE, MUTTSULINI WENT THROUGH THE CYCLE OF NOSEBLEED, STANCHING THE BLOOD, AND A TRANSFUSION IN AN INSTANT.

IT'S NOT LIKE I WANTED TO SEE KUDOU'S AVATAR! IT WAS OUT OF MY HANDS--
WHA?! N-NO ...!
LOOKING AT ANOTHER WOMAN, YUUJI?

GYAAAAAH!!
...YOU CAN'T STRAY FROM ME.
SPICK
THE REAL-LIFE HORROR SHOW UNFOLDING NEXT TO ME-- THIS IS THE REASON CLASS F'S DUDES AREN'T AFRAID OF MONSTERS.

WHY DO YOU HAVE TISSUES STUFFED UP YOUR NOSE?
...BY THE WAY, MUTTSU-LIN!?

...CLASS C.
RRROGER THAT!

OKAY, WE CLEARED CLASS D.
WHERE DO WE GO NEXT, AGAIN?

WHY WAS MY EYESIGHT INCAPABLE OF CAPTURING THE DETAILS OF KUDOU'S AVATAR...?!
DAMMIT!! WHY...?!

...ALLER-GIES.
ALLERGIES? O-O REALLYYY?
CAMERA 2

THIS IS THE HARD DRIVE TSUCHIYA'S SAVING EVERY-THING ON, YES?
SWISH

AKIHISA, ARE YOU THINKING SOMETHING INDECENT?
NOPE, NOT ONE BIT!

I'M THINKIN' OF ASKING MUTTSULINI TO PLAY THAT BATTLE BACK FOR ME IN SLOW MOTION LATER.
SO WHAT ARE YOU THINK-ING?

WE MIGHT NEED IT TO LOOK FOR EVI-DENCE OF CHEAT-ING!!
I MEAN, UH, OH YEAH!!
AAHHH!! PUT IT BACK, HIMEJI!! YOU CAN'T TAKE THAT!!

G-GOOD. AKI'S INTERESTED EVEN IN SMALLER SIZES...

HOW EVIL... MUTTSULINI WILL WEEP TEARS OF BLOOD.
OH, DON'T WORRY. EVERYONE HERE WATCHING IS A WITNESS.

CLASS C
OHH. AND THAT ONE THERE?
"TAKA-ONNA." TALL WOMAN.
CA
"FUTAKU-CHI-ONNA." THE TWO MOUTHED WOMAN.
HUH? WHAT'S THAT MONSTER CALLED AGAIN?
CAMERA 2
WHAT ABOUT THAT ONE?
...WHO CARES?
I BET THE THIRD-YEARS ARE HOLDING THEIR HEADS IN DEFEAT RIGHT ABOUT NOW!
THEY'RE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS, YUUJI.
THEY MIGHT JUST BLOW THROUGH THE REST OF THE HAUNTED HOUSE!

HUH? WHATCHA MEAN?
THEY'LL STRIKE BACK SOON.
THEY SAW MUTTSULINI'S HEALTH SCORE. THEY KNOW WHO HE IS NOW.
I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE ABOUT THAT.

...BUT I'M SURE THEY'VE AT LEAST HEARD THERE'S A LECH AMONG US WITH A CRAZY HIGH HEALTH SCORE.
THE THIRD-YEARS MIGHT NOT KNOW MUTTSULINI'S NAME...

IT'S NOT LIKE HE'D SCREAM, YOU KNOW?
...BUT MUTTSULINI JUST GETS NOSEBLEEDS AND COLLAPSES.
WEAKNESS? I GUESS YOU COULD CALL IT THAT...

WHICH MEANS IT'S HIGHLY LIKELY THEY'VE REALIZED WHAT HIS WEAKNESS IS.
CAMERA 1
CAMERA 4

WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU SAYING, YUUJI?
THE WAY HE WORDED THAT MAKES IT SOUND LIKE THE THIRD-YEARS HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND.
HE'S BEING ALL HINTY.
YOU'RE RIGHT THAT HE MIGHT NOT SCREAM.
I'M SAYING THERE ARE NOISES OTHER THAN SCREAMS THAT COULD BE LOUD ENOUGH TO DISQUALIFY YOU.
FOR INSTANCE... A FOUNTAIN OF BLOOD.
A-AHAHA.. THAT'S CRAZY TALK, YUUJI.
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
THE THIRD-YEARS WOULD NEVER GO THAT FAR--
...SHOULD BE ANY SECOND NOW.
CAMERA 2

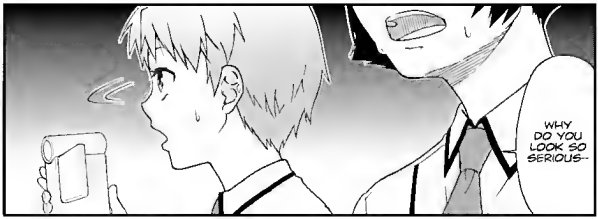
TO BE CONTINUED

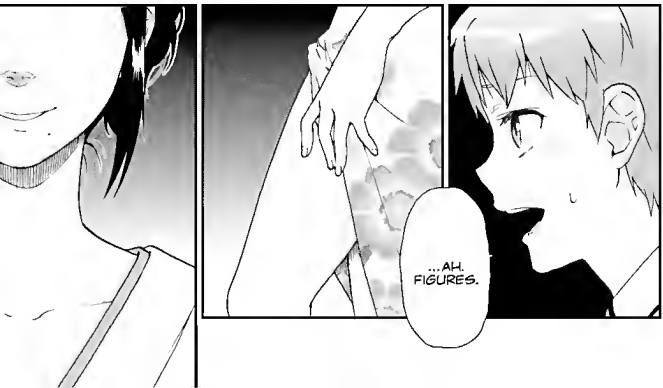
BAKA TEST

SUMMON THE BEASTS

BAKA
TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS

M-MUTTSU-LINI?
...!!
CLASS C
QUESTION 67
第Q67問


WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SERIOUS--


...AH. FIGURES.

A FEAST FOR THE EYES!!

O-OH MY GOD...!!
IF I WEREN'T IN FRONT OF HIMEJI AND MINAMI AND HIDEYOSHI, I'D BE SHOUTING RIGHT ALONG WITH THEM...!!
CAMERA 4
CAMERA 5

HMPH
...I'D LOOK JUST AS GOOD IN A KIMONO.
BWRK
I-I'M NOT LOOKING!! I DIDN'T SEE A THING, SHOUKO, I SWEAR!!
YUUJI.
...PERFECT TIMING. I'D BEEN WONDERING WHICH STYLE TO WEAR FOR OUR WEDDING.
W-WELL, I WOULDN'T FORCE YOU TO WEAR ONE OR ANYTHING, BUT...
...OKAY. THEN I'LL WEAR BOTH THE KIMONO AND THE CAT MAID OUTFIT.
WHAT'S WITH THOSE CHOICES?!
YOUR PARENTS ARE GONNA CRY THEIR EYES OUT--FOR MULTIPLE REASONS!!
PUTTING ASIDE WHO YOU'LL MARRY FOR NOW...
IF YOU'RE NOT SURE, YOU COULD ALWAYS GO WITH BOTH--

QUESTION 67

第67問

FUDGESICLES!! MUTTSULINI'S MIND IS STUCK IN THE OPENING IN HER KIMONO!! BUT...
...THIS... ISN'T ENOUGH... TO STOP... ME...!!
SHAKE
QUIVER
SHAKE
QUAKE
...
.. YOUR KNEES BEG TO DIFFER, MUTTSULINI.

NO, HOLD ON! THERE'LL BE MORE !!
BWUH?
AMAZING!! I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S HOLDING IN HIS NOSEBLEED AGAINST SUCH A SENSUAL ATTACK!!
WE MAY AS WELL HAVE WON!!
THAT'S CRAZY!! THERE'S NO WAY--

I AM AOI KOGURE. I HAIL FROM CLASS 3-A.
WELCOME, WEARY TRAVELERS.

THANK YOU FOR THE KIND WORDS. I AM A MEMBER OF THE TEA CEREMONY CLUB, YOU SEE.
YOU PULL THAT KIMONO OFF REALLY WELL.
KOGURE, IS IT? HI. I'M AIKO KUDOU FROM 2-A.

ALTHOUGH YOU'VE GOT IT ON KINDA LOOSE.
IT'S YOUR UNIFORM, SO TO SPEAK. YEAH?
OH, I GOTCHA. YEAH, YOU DO THAT IN KIMONOS.

TMP
TMP
COOL BEANS. WELL, WE'VE GOT SOMEWHERE TO BE! BYE!
YES, I WEAR A UNIFORM.
ACTUALLY ...
I BELONG TO THE GYMNASTICS CLUB AS WELL!
SPUK!
WHAP
WHAT DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING ELSE TO SAY?

MUTTSULINI NEVER STOOD A CHANCE, SEEING THAT IN PERSON!!
DAMMIT!! THAT'S JUST PLAYING DIRTY!!
THE VOLUME LEVEL WENT INTO THE RED--AS DID THE MONITOR SCREEN!!

I'LL BE ON MY HANDS AND KNEES BEGGING HIMEJI TO GIVE THAT HARD DRIVE BACK!!
HURRY, YUUJI! YOU COME UP WITH A PLAN FOR COUNTER-ATTACK!!
THOSE DIRTY BAS-TARDS!! OH, THIS MEANS WAR!

I HAVE A GRAVE RESPONSI-BILITY TO SET THAT HARD DRIVE BACK UP BEFORE SHE'S OUT OF THE CAMERA'S VIEW--

LIKE HELL I WOULD! I'M GONNA GET THIS RECORDED!!
GOT IT! DON'T LET US DOWN, AKIHISA!!

HUH? KINDA FEELS LIKE MY VISION'S GONE BLACK ALL OF A SUDDEN...
WHOOSH

BAD AKI.
SPLAT
IT'S NOT FAIR OF YOU TO MAKE SAKAMOTO COME UP WITH A PLAN ALL ON HIS OWN. RIGHT, MIZUKI?
OH, YOU'RE QUITE RIGHT, MINAMI.
AKIHISA, I THINK THE SITUATION CALLS FOR YOU TO USE YOUR HEAD, NOT YOUR EYES.

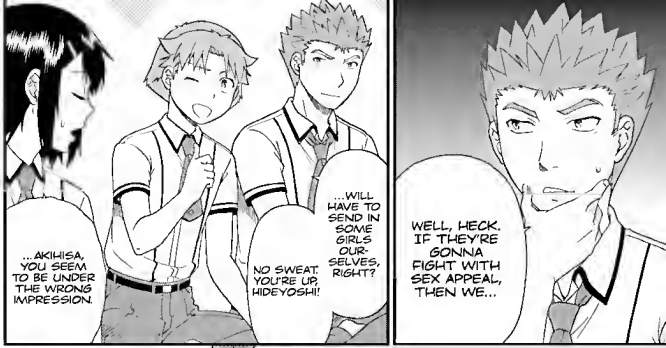
GWAAAH!! DON'T JAB MY EYES WITH THE SAME FORCE YOU'D USE TO PINCH MY EARS OR CHEEKS!!
...YUUJI, WHICH EYES HAVE BEEN BAD? THESE LITTLE EYES?
JAB
THIS IS NOT IN CUTE-SCOLDING TERRITORY !!

--OW, OW, OW!! MY EYES!!
DID SHE CRUSH MY EYES SO FAST THAT THERE WAS A PAIN-LAG?!

GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS...!!
GUH...!! ASSAULTED BY BOTH A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CHANCE AND A LIFE-OR-DEATH CRISIS AT ONCE!!

PLEASE, HIMEJI!! THIS IS A LIFE-OR-LIFETIME CHANCE!!
RELEASE THE HARD DRIVE!!
AKIHISA? I THINK YOUR WORDS HAVE RUN TOGETHER INTO A NEW VOCABULARY.
RAT,S!-I PANICKED!
OH NO!! TSUCHIYA'S BLEEDING TO DEATH! I GOTTA GO HELP HIM!!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO GO ALONE!! HERE, TAKE ME!!
WAIT!! I'M WORRIED ABOUT TSUCHIYA, TOO!!
I'M GOING, TOO!! I COULD NEVER ABANDON A BROTHER!!
DON'T-DO IT, GUYS!! IF-YOU RUN IN NOW...!!
AWWW YEEEEAH!! GYMNAS-TICS UNI-FOOORM!!
RRRUMBLE

I THINK I FINALLY UNDERSTAND WHY THAT PEEPING NONSENSE WENT AS FAR AS IT DID...
WHY ARE ALL OF THE BOYS AT OUR SCHOOL SO DUMB...?
...THEY WERE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE VERY MOMENT THEY ENTERED THE STAGE ...
WE WERE DOING SO WELL... AND NOW OUR FORCE HAS BEEN HALVED!
U... URGH... TH- THIS IS BAD...
WE LET THIS STAND, AND WE'LL LOSE ALL OUR DUDES EXCEPT FOR KUBO...
OHH. HE MEANS THAT KUBO'S THE ONLY ONE STRAIGHT-LACED ENOUGH TO NOT GO CHARGING IN LIKE THAT, HUH?
HE DOESN'T SEEM ALL THAT INTERESTED IN GIRLS, EITHER.


...AKIHISA, YOU SEEM TO BE UNDER THE WRONG IMPRESSION.
NO SWEAT. YOU'RE UP, HIDEYOSHI!
...WILL HAVE TO SEND IN SOME GIRLS OUR-SELVES, RIGHT?
WELL, HECK. IF THEY'RE GONNA FIGHT WITH SEX APPEAL, THEN WE...

TA-TA-UMP
...H-HUH...? HIDEYOSHI... I-I, UM, I WISH YOU'D TOLD ME THIS IN PRIVATE, SO I COULD...
IT BOTHERS ME WHEN YOU IN PARTICULAR DON'T KEEP THAT IN MIND--
I AM ATTRACTED TO THE OPPOSITE SEX, YOU KNOW?

WHY ARE YOU BLUSH-ING?!
THAT WAS NOT AN INDIRECT CONFESSION OF LOVE, OKAY?!
S-STOP, AKIHISA!!

WHAP
EVERYBODY LISTEN UP!!
WE NEED TO FOCUS ON THE CONTEST.

I EVEN KISSED HIM AND HE STILL DIDN'T GET IT...
IT'S SO UNFAIR... WITH KINOSHITA, HE SEES THE LITTLEST THINGS AS LOVE CONFESSIONS...

?
EH, DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU. HIDEYOSHI HAS LESS DISTANCE TO COVER 'CAUSE THEY WERE FRIENDS AS DUOES FIRST.

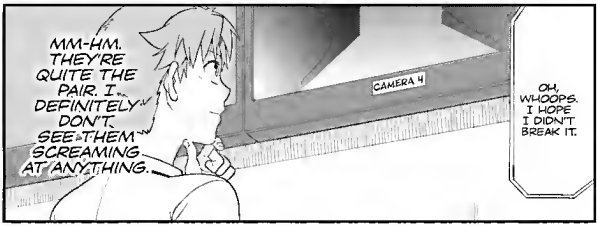
YUUJI!! DID YOU JUST SAY "SISTERS" ?!
THE KINOSHITA SISTERS ARE GOING IN NEXT!!

YOUR WORDS MAKE ME FEEL AS THOUGH I WILL DEFINITELY NOT GET OUT OF THIS SAFE AND SOUND...
There's um, something I need to tell you

BREAK A LEG OUT THERE, HIDEYOSHI. OH, AND WHEN YOU COME BACK SAFE AND SOUND...
I'M COUNTIN' ON YA, HIDEYOSHI.

めし
GLORP
SISTER, WATCH YOUR FEET. YOU'RE STEPPING ON AN UMBRELLA MONSTER PROP.

CLASS C
A HAUNTED HOUSE... GREAT.
I'M NOT A FAN OF HORROR.


MM-HM. THEY'RE QUITE THE PAIR. I DEFINITELY DON'T SEE THEM SCREAMING AT ANYTHING.
CAMERA 4
OH, WHOOPS. I HOPE I DIDN'T BREAK IT.

CAMERA 4

YEP. A SEDUCTION TRAP IS POINTLESS AGAINST THOSE TWO.
THEY'LL GET FURTHER ALONG, NO PROB.

PLEASE GO ON AHEAD.
WHOSH
WELL, THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO TO STOP YOU, THEN.
I SEE. YOU'RE A PAIR OF TWO GIRLS.
OH? YOU TWO ARE...

MRF... WE MADE IT THROUGH WITH NO ISSUE, YET I FEEL SOME LINGERING RESERVATIONS ...
LET'S TAKE HER UP ON THAT, HIDEYOSHI.

YEAH. IT WAS EASY... TOO EASY.

HUH. SHE SURE LET THEM THROUGH EASY, HUH?

...IS THAT FAUXHAWK (TSUNEMURA)?

WHAT'S HE DOING THERE? IS IT SOME KINDA PLAN AGAINST HIDEYOSHI?
BUT HE ISN'T DRESSED UP CREEPY LIKE BALDY..
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING THAT WOULD MAKE ANYBODY SCREAM.

I'M NOT REALLY GETTING THAT VIBE, THOUGH...
CAMERA 4

WHATEVER IT IS, THEY DON'T HAVE IT OUT IN THE OPEN. MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING THAT LOOKS SO SCARY, EVEN HIDEYOSHI WOULD SCREAM AFTER JUST A QUICK GLANCE?
CAMERA 4
CAMERA 1

SO DO WE. WELL, WHATEVER THIS IS ABOUT, I ASK THAT YOU KEEP IT SHORT.
YEAH, NO PROBLEM. THIS'LL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE.
HIDEYOSHI KINOSHITA. I BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
WAITING FOR ME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WRAPPED THIS UP QUICKLY, HIDEYOSHI.
WE NEED TO MOVE ON.
YES?
...LOOK, KINOSHITA...

THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D EVER HEARD HIDEYOSHI SCREAM WHEN IT WASN'T ON A SCRIPT.

ズーン
GLOOM
2-F
I-I'VE FAILED YOU ALL..
I CAN'T BELIEVE I LET OUT SUCH A LOUD SCREAM...

YEAH, HIDEYOSHI. BESIDES, YOUR SISTER WAS SAYING "WHY YOU AND NOT ME...?!" WHILE ALMOST BREAKING YOUR ARM.
MY HAT'S OFF TO YOU FOR GETTING OUT OF THERE WITH NOTHING WORSE THAN A SCREAM!
CRUSH
CRUSH

DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN, HIDEYOSHI. NOBODY CAN BLAME YOU.
WHO WOULDN'T SCREAM AFTER A LOVE CONFESSION FROM ANOTHER DUDE--ESPECIALLY FROM THAT GRUBBY DUDE?

MY SISTER'S ARMLOCK WAS MERCILESS INDEED..
BUT THE WORST PART WAS THE POEM RECITATION OF A VERSE HE SAID HE WROTE FOR ME...

I WAS HOPING THAT MY SISTER WOULD GET US THROUGH CLASS C...
...OR AT LEAST WHITTLE DOWN THE FELLOWS AT THE CHECKPOINT.

YUP. THAT WAS TOUGH.
SO MUCH SO THAT THE MOMENT I HEARD THE LINE "YOU ARE THE SUN THAT LIGHTS MY SKIES," MY MIND JUST SHUT RIGHT DOWN.

I CAN'T THINK OF MANY OTHER PEOPLE STRONG ENOUGH TO GET PAST OUR KIMONO-WEARING SENIOR.
YEAH, WE'RE GETTING INTO DIRE STRAITS HERE.

WE SHOULDN'T SEND THEM OUT UNTIL WE'VE SCOUTED OUT THE TRAPS IN CLASS A.
YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA COULD HANDLE IT, BUT WE NEED THEM FOR THE FINAL CLASSROOM.

NO WORRIES, HIDEYOSHI.
LOOKS LIKE THEY HAVE INTEL ON SOME OF OUR MEMBERS.
BUT THANKFULLY, WE HAVE A SECRET WEAPON.

I MEAN, EVEN THE GIRLS ARE PRETTY FREAKED OUT BY THE TSUNE-NATSU DUO.
BWUH? WE HAVE SOMEONE LIKE THAT?
THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET US PAST THE CHECKPOINT, TOO.
THEY CAN'T BE STOPPED BY SEXINESS.
NAH, I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THEM ANYMORE.
THE GOTHLOLI SETUP IS GETTING TOO TIRED FOR THEM TO KEEP UP WITH IT.
AND THE LOVE CONFES-SION WAS A SPE-CIFICALLY ANTI-HIDEYOSHI TACTIC.
SHUDDER
YEAH... I THINK THAT ATTACK WAS MEANT FOR HIDEYOSHI AND HIDEYOSHI ALONE.
WHICH MEANS THERE'S NOTHING ALL THAT SCARY IN THERE ANYMORE.
WHY IS HE EMPHASIZING THAT?

HOW CAN YOU ASK ME TO GO IN THERE AFTER WHAT WE'VE SEEN?!
TH-THAT'S SO NOT FUNNY!!
UH, HUH? ME AN' MINAMI ARE YOUR SECRET WEAPON?
SO YOU WON'T NEED TO WORRY WHEN YOU GO IN, AKIHISA AND SHIMADA.

COME ON, YUUJI. YOU'RE BEING UNREASONABLE.
QUIVER
QUIVER
FORGET ABOUT MAKING IT THROUGH A CHECKPOINT. SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'LL END UP DISQUALIFIED THE MOMENT SHE STEPS IN...

LISTEN, MAN. YOU JUST FORGET ABOUT THE COMPETITION AND HAVE FUN OUT THERE WITH SHIMADA.
WE DON'T HAVE THE GRADES TO GET THROUGH IT.
LOOK HOW SCARED MINAMI IS. PLUS, EVEN ON THE OFF CHANCE THAT WE MADE IT TO THE CHECKPOINT...

YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW.
URGH... I-I'M NOT SCARED, YOU KNOW!
AND SHIMADA... I KNOW.
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND HOLD ONTO AKIHISA, AND YOU'LL BE JUST FINE.
YOU GOTTA AT LEAST HANG ONTO HIM WITH YOUR EYES SQUEEZED SHUT TO KEEP HIM FROM FEELING TOO BAD, YEAH?
A MAN'S GOT HIS PRIDE, YOU KNOW?
WHAT I'M SAYIN' IS THAT AKIHISA HERE IS A SCAREDY CAT, SO I'M HOPING YOU'LL HELP THE GUY OUT.
GOODNESS ME, BUT SHIMADA IS A DIFFICULT CHARACTER...
IT IS SO NOT LIKE I WANT TO HANG ONTO AKI'S ARM OR ANY-THING!!
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SCARED!
I GUESS I CAN GO ALONG WITH THAT.
SMIRK
Y-YEAH, FINE, IF YOU INSIST.

LEAN
IF YOU'RE NOT UP TO IT, THEN I CAN--
U-UM! MINAMI !!

N-NO! NOTHING!
DID YOU SAY SOME-THING, KINOSHI-TA?!

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT SO BAD!!
N-NO, I TOTALLY WANT TO!!

HOLD UP A SEC, AKIHISA.
W-WHAT UP, YUUJI?

SNIP
AGAH!! M-MINAMI ?!
HANGING ONTO MY ARM ISN'T THE SAME AS USING WRESTLING MOVES--
BESIDES, I PROMISED I'D PAIR UP WITH AKI!! COME ON AKI, LET'S GO!!

I NEED YOU GUYS TO DO ONE THING.
ONCE YOU'VE GOTTEN PRETTY CLOSE TO THE KIMONO CHICK...
MAKE SURE NO ONE'S AROUND, HIDE IN THE SHADOWS, AND COME BACK. GOT IT?
HUH? WOULDN'T THAT DISQUALIFY US?
NAW, THERE'S NO RULE THAT SAYS YOU CAN'T TURN BACK.
NO PROB.
COOL. WHAT'S THE POINT, THOUGH?
YOU KIDS GO HAVE FUN!
SHOVE
GO IN FOR A WHILE, THEN COME BACK? WHAT'S HE GOT UP HIS SLEEVE?

I'M JUST A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT MY ARM. IT'S ALREADY LOSING CIRCULATION.
URGH ...!!
SQUEEZE
OH WELL. LET'S DO OUR BEST, MINAMI.

...OH, YES WE SHALL.
...SHALL WE BE OFF, SHIMIZU? TO OUR BATTLE-FIELD?
TO BE CONTINUED

BAKA TEST

SUMMON THE BEASTS

BAKA
TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS

CLASS C
BAM
--!!
WELP.
QUESTION 68
第68問

IT WORKS PRETTY WELL WITH THE DIM LIGHTING IN HERE.
THAT STARTLED ME. WAS THAT AN IT-TAN-MOMENT? THE FLYING COTTON BOLT MONSTER? GOOD USE OF OLD CURTAINS.

THAT'S SOME GOOD ACTING, BUT IT'S GOT NOTHING ON THE SCARINESS OF SEEING YUUJI GETTING PUNISHED BY MISS KIRISHIMA.
--!!
UOOOOH....

GUH... WHY IS SHE SCARED WHEN SHE'S BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR EVEN GROSSER SCENES?
SHAKE
KINDA GORY, BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO SCARE YOU EITHER, RIGHT, MINAMI?
--!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
--!!
YOU KNOW, IT'S KINDA HARD TO WALK WITH YOU HOLDING ON THAT TIGHT...
ALTHOUGH MY ELBOW'S STARTING TO.
OH CRAP. SHE'S NOT LETTING UP. AT. ALL.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

SHE'S BEEN SCARED THIS WHOLE TIME. I FEEL BAD FOR HER. MAYBE I CAN DISTRACT HER...
THEY TAPED OVER THE WINDOWS TO MAKE IT DARKER, BUT SEEING SOME FAMILIAR SCENERY SHOULD HELP CHEER HER UP.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK-SEE...
LOOK, MINAMI. THERE'S A WINDOW.
MAYBE IF YOU LOOK OUTSIDE--

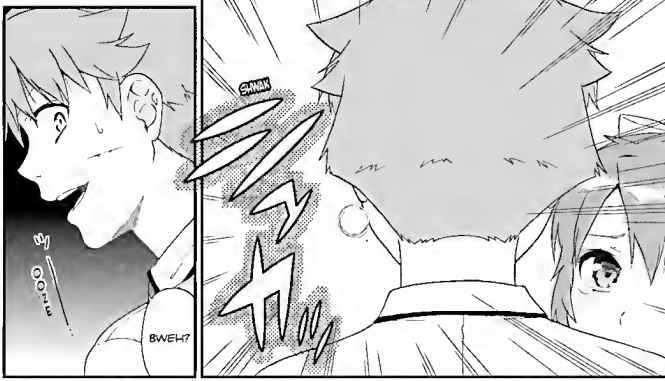
--!!
--!!
KEE HEE HEE HEE... I'LL CURSE YOU...

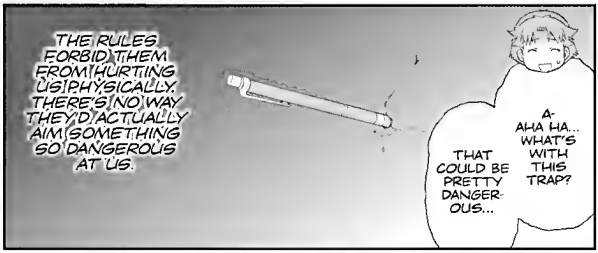
...WE LET OUR GUARD DOWN THINKING WE'D JUST SEE OUTSIDE! IT'S SUPER EFFECTIVE...!
NOT ONLY DOES THE LIGHT LET YOU SEE THE MONSTER IN ITS FULL GLORY...

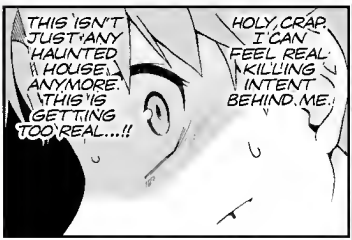
OH, MAN. THIS ISN'T THE MINAMI I KNOW--
DUDE, WHERE'D SHE PULL THAT CUTE-NESS OUT FROM?!
PLEASE... AKI... CAN WE GO BACK...?
HIC... I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS. I SHOULD NEVER HAVE COME IN HERE...
...SORRY. THAT DIDN'T HELP, HUH?

QUESTION 68

第Q68問


OO-NE
BWEH?
CHINK
CHINK


A-AHA HA... WHAT'S WITH THIS TRAP?
THAT COULD BE PRETTY DANGEROUS...
THE RULES FORBID THEM FROM HURTING US PHYSICALLY. THERE'S NO WAY THEY'D ACTUALLY AIM SOMETHING SO DANGEROUS AT US.


HOLY CRAP. I CAN FEEL REAL KILLING INTENT BEHIND ME.
THIS ISN'T JUST ANY HAUNTED HOUSE ANYMORE. THIS IS GETTING TOO REAL...!!

...THE NEXT ONE WON'T MISS, PIGGY...

OH, MAN. OHHHH, MAN. I-I WOULDN'T MIND TURNING CLASS IN TO A HAUNTED HOUSE AND HAVING MINAMI LIKE THIS ALL YEAR ROUND.
...O-OKAY, AKI... I CAN GO A LITTLE FURTHER IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT...
M-MINAMI, HANG IN THERE JUST A LITTLE LONGER.
THEN WE'LL HEAD BACK TO THE CLASS-ROOM, OKAY?
I-I KNOW. WE'LL SEPARATE MILADY AND THE PIG SOMEWHERE DARKER.
CALM YOURSELF, SHIMIZU.
IT'S TOO EARLY TO ACT.
WE CAN THANK SAKAMOTO FOR THAT.
THANKFULLY, THERE IS NO RULE STATING THAT YOU CAN'T SWITCH PARTNERS INSIDE THE HAUNTED HOUSE.

G-GOD, I CAN'T HELP IT, OKAY?
GERMAN MONSTERS DON'T SCARE ME...
...BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT JAPANESE MONSTERS ...

YOU KNOW, I DIDN'T PEG YOU AS SOMEBODY WHO'D GET FREAKED OUT IN HAUNTED HOUSES.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT..
A WOMAN'S NECK STRETCHING OUT OF NOWHERE?
LIKE, PAPER LANTERNS SPROUTING MOUTHS, ARMS, AND LEGS?

...BUT MINAMI DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THEM, SO I GUESS IT ALL TAKES HER BY COMPLETE SURPRISE, HUH?
OHHH. THE REST OF US ARE ALREADY PRETTY FAMILIAR WITH JAPANESE MONSTERS...

...I'M GOOD.
I'D RATHER LIVE IN GERMANY ...
...THAN ADAPT TO THIS!
PWIP

BUT YOU KNOW, MINAMI, YOU GOTTA ADAPT TO JAPAN!

IT'S NOT LIKE I WOULDN'T HAVE ANYONE. I'D BE TOTALLY FINE.
I'VE GOT FRIENDS IN GERMANY, TOO, YOU KNOW.
I WOULDN'T BE ONE BIT LONELY.
AWW, DON'T SAY THAT, MINAMI.
THAT SOUNDS SO LONELY.
WELL... THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I MEANT.
WHAT DID YOU MEAN, THEN?
THE REST OF US WOULD BE LONELY WITHOUT YOU.
...HUH ...?
YOU'D FEEL LONELY? WHY?
WHY? I MEAN... THAT'S JUST HOW IT WOULD BE.

IS IT SUCH AN IMPORTANT QUESTION TO HER?
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER? SHE WAS SHIVERING WITH FEAR UNTIL NOW...

BUT WHY DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE THAT WAY?

UHHH... A REASON YOU FEEL LONELY WHEN SOMEONE'S GONE...

I DUNNO IF IT'S REALLY AN ANSWER, BUT I THINK IT'S BECAUSE...

...
STARE...

THEN... AKI... ARE YOU SAYING YOU WANT ME TO BE WITH YOU?
BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT YOU'D ALWAYS BE WITH SOMEBODY, BUT THEN THEY LEAVE... I GUESS?
YEAH.
...ALWAYS BE TOGETHER ...?
HMM? WHAT'S UP?
O-OKAY.. THEN I...
I GET THE FEELING WE'RE NOT EXACTLY SAYING THE SAME THING HERE.
HUH? UH, YEAH, I-I THINK SO?

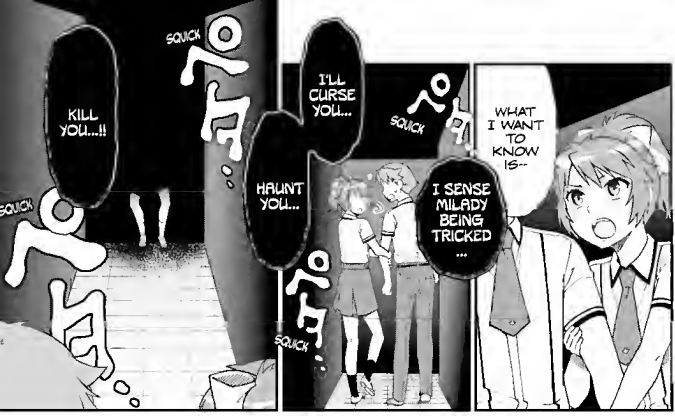
..YOU'D BE OKAY WITH THAT..?
THEN... IF I SAID I WOULD STAY BY YOUR SIDE, FOREVER AND EVER..

I KNOW SHE'S CONFIDENT IN HER PHYSICAL STRENGTH, BUT, DUDE, I CANNOT RECOMMEND THAT.
NEXT TO MY SEAT IN THE WORST POSSIBLE PLACE IN THAT CRAPPY CLASSROOM?
SHE WANT'S TO SIT NEXT TO ME FOREVER?

HUH? UH, OKAY? I'M SORRY?
GOD, AKI! STOP PLAYING DUMB!

BUT ALL THE SPOTS AROUND MY SEAT ARE SUPER HOT.
AND COME WINTER, THE DRAFT WILL BE FREEZING. SO YOU PROBABLY SHOULD NOT..

...THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TRYING TO ASK HERE.
WHY IS SHE MAD AT ME NOW?


KILL YOU...!!
SQUICK
SQUICK
I'LL CURSE YOU...
HAUNT YOU...
SQUICK
SQUICK
I SENSE MILADY BEING TRICKED ...
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS--

AI--
MMF!!

NO, WAIT. THIS KIND OF THING IS ONLY SCARY BECAUSE YOU KNOW SOMETHING'S CHASING YOU.
THERE'S NO WAY IT'LL ACTUALLY HURT US, SO JUST KEEP CALM AND--

PUHAAH!
S-SOMETHING'S COMING, AKI... WE HAVE TO GET AWAY...!!

LET'S GET THE HECK OUTTA DODGE. CAN YOU RUN, MINAMI?
YEAH ...!

SWIK
SWIK
SWIK

THAT PRESENCE ,COMING AFTER US... NO WAY IS IT AN AVATAR.
HECK, I GET THE FEELING IT ISN'T EVEN A THIRD-YEAR'...!!

SHIMIZU, IN YOUR CURRENT STATE YOU ARE FAR MORE ATROCIOUS THAN ANY MONSTER.

I WILL CHASE YOU DOWN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO GET MILADY BACK...!!
SQUICK
SQUICK
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY...!!

ONLY ONE THING TO DO...!
IT'LL CATCH UP TO US IN NO TIME \\ FLAT WITH HER CLINGING TO ME LIKE THIS...!!
TMP
TMP

HUH? O-OKAY I GUESS I CAN DO THAT...
LISTEN, MINAMI. WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL, I WANT YOU TO SUMMON YOUR AVATAR WITH A WHISPER.

NOW, MINAMI!
URSH... S-SUM-MON!
SQUICK
SQUICK
SQUICK
WHIRL

IMPRESSIVE INSTINCTS.
UH, AKI? I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE YOU DESERVE A WALLOPING.

GOOD, GOOD. IMPRESSIVELY SMOOTH AND FLAT.
HWOOO

ANYWAY, MOVE YOUR AVATAR OVER THIS WAY A LITTLE...
YOU'RE JUST IMAGINING THAT.

UH, SURE THING ...
YEAH, RIGHT THERE. THAT'S PERFECT. NOW JUST HOLD IT STILL, OKAY?

SHIMIZU, YOU'VE GONE SO FAR OVER TO THE DARK SIDE THAT THE AIR AROUND YOU ACTUALLY APPEARS DISTORTED!
SQUICK
SQUICK
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY... KEE HEE HEE HEE.
MILADY... MILADYYY ...

SQUICK
SQUICK
SQUICK

A-ARE YOU SURE...?
IT'S OKAY NOW. LOOKS LIKE THE CREEPIEST MONSTER PASSED US BY.
...OKAY, I THINK WE'RE GOOD.
PEEK

I'D FEEL TOO BAD MAKING MINAMI GO ON ANYWAY.
OKAY, MAYBE WE SHOULD HEAD BACK NOW. LIKE YUUJI TOLD ME TO.
Y-YEAH. THANK GOD...
GLANCE
GLANCE
LOOK. NOTHING TO SEE HERE. RIGHT?

AKI, WAIT.
'KAY, LET'S GO BACK.

...WE WEREN'T DONE.
WHAT'S UP? DID YOU SEE SOME THING?
WHAT'S THAT? I COULDN'T HEAR YOU.

BWUH? M-MINAMI, YOU SEEM REALLY WORKED UP.
CALM DOWN, OKAY?
WOULD YOU BE LONELY WITHOUT ME BECAUSE WE'RE FRIENDS?
OR BE-CAUSE ...
...WE WEREN'T DONE TALKING. WE NEED TO FINISH.
I NEED YOU TO BE STRAIGHT WITH ME, RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW.
I'M IN LOVE WITH--
Y-YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH...?
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN ORANGUTANS OR CHIMPANZEES OR SLOTHS OR ANY OF THAT.
YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT ME.

FAINT
AH...
--M-M-MON... STERS...!!
GOTCHA... GEEZ. DIDN'T HAVE TO PUT ON SUCH A STRONG FACE.

WARP
OKAY. MINAMI'S OUT COLD. PROOOBABLY TIME TO HEAD BACK.
MINAMI'S BLUFFS ARE HARDCORE.
SHE WAS SO SCARED SHE FAINTED, BUT SHE SAYS SHE LOVES MONSTERS?

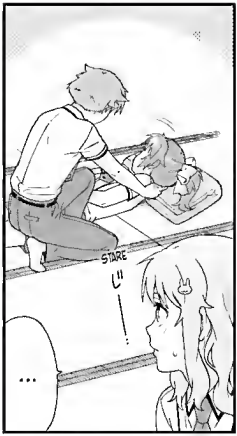
AND I DRAGGED MINAMI RIGHT INTO THIS TRAP.. BOY, DO I SUCK.
OHHH. THAT WASN'T A PILE OF TRASH. IT WAS A PILE OF HAUNTED STUFF.

BOO!!

THE PLAN'S A SUCCESS.
OHO, YOU MADE IT BACK, AKIHISA? GOOD MAN.

2-F
WE'RE BACK!
ガラ
KLAK

UH, HOW? WE DIDN'T EVEN DO ANYTHING OUT THERE.


STARE
...

...
THEN YOU DID EXACTLY AS INTENDED.

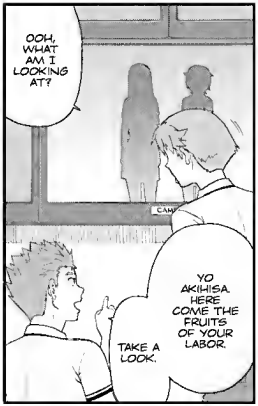
???

O-OH! UM, IT'S NOTHING!
HWUH? WHAT'S UP, HIMEJI?

I GUESS SHE MUST'VE MADE UP HER MIND TO FACE HER FEARS AFTER WATCHING MINAMI GO FOR IT.

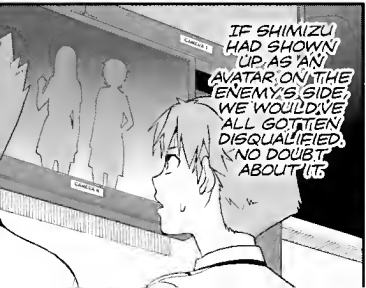
I...NEED TO BE COURAGEOUS, TOO...

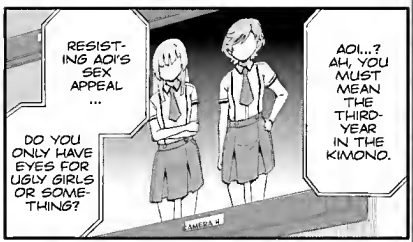
HEEE... HAAH...!! MI-LAAADYYY...
SURRENDER MILADY TO ME NOW...


OOH, WHAT AM I LOOKING AT?
YO AKIHISA. HERE COME THE FRUITS OF YOUR LABOR.
TAKE A LOOK.

NO. DESPITE ALL INDICATIONS OTHERWISE, SHE IS HUMAN.

...H-HEY, IS THAT YOUR AVATAR?
IT HAS THIS REALLY SINISTER AURA...


IF SHIMIZU HAD SHOWN UP AS AN AVATAR ON THE ENEMY'S SIDE, WE WOULD'VE ALL GOTTEN DISQUALIFIED. NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
CAMERA 1
CAMERA 2


RESISTING AOI'S SEX APPEAL ...
DO YOU ONLY HAVE EYES FOR UGLY GIRLS OR SOMETHING?
AOI...? AH, YOU MUST MEAN THE THIRD-YEAR IN THE KIMONO.

REALLY?
I COULD SEE THAT SHE IS A BEAUTY.
NO, CERTAINLY NOT.

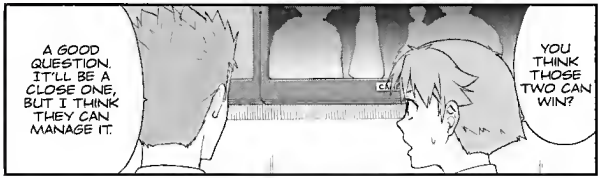
I CAN'T BELIEVE A BOY MADE IT PAST AOI.
BOY, IS THIS UNEXPECTED.

GOTTA WONDER ABOUT HIS PRESENT.

YES, IN THE PAST, I DID HAVE FEELINGS FOR A WOMAN.

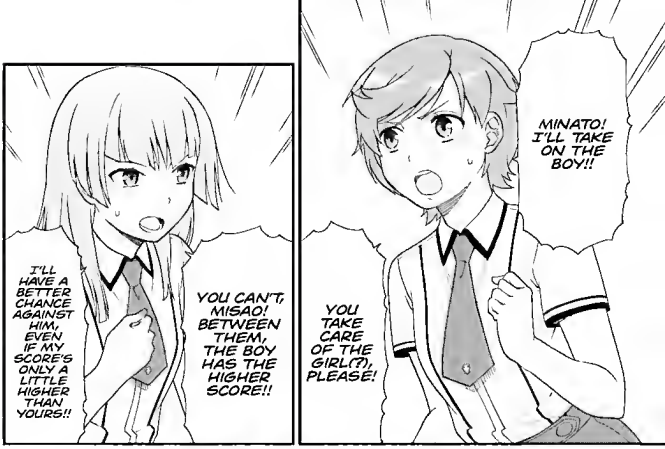
W-WE BETTER GET THIS OVER WITH FAST, BEFORE SHE CURSES US... SUMMON.
UM, I HAVE THIS FEELING THAT SHE'S ALREADY LOST TOO MUCH OF HER HUMANITY.. SUMMON.
WHAP
...KI...LL... MAKE... MILA...DY... MI...NE...
NOW THEN, LADIES, SHALL WE BEGIN BEFORE SHIMIZU LOSES HER GRASP ON HUMAN LANGUAGE? SUMMON.
CLASS A MINATO KOTOBUKI MODERN JAPANESE 289
CLASS A MISAO NAKASONE MODERN JAPANESE 271
GNOOO
... SUMMON ...

CLASS A
TOSHIMITSU KUBO
MODERN JAPANESE
388
CLASS D
WHAT WAS ONCE MIHARU SHIMIZU
MODERN JAPANESE
135
HNGGGGG
...UM, SHIMIZU IS CLEARLY MORE OF A MONSTER THAN THE AVATARS.


A GOOD QUESTION. IT'LL BE A CLOSE ONE, BUT I THINK THEY CAN MANAGE IT.
YOU THINK THOSE TWO CAN WIN?

A POR-TION?
ONLY THE MONSTER WITH MORE THAN 400 POINTS, DUDE.
OUT OF ALL THE MONSTER AVATARS WE'VE SEEN, ONLY A PORTION HAVE HAD SPECIAL POWERS.
PROBABLY NOT.
THEY'RE UP AGAINST A SNOW WOMAN. THINK SHE CAN USE, LIKE, BLIZZARDS AND SUCH?

MUTTSULINI AND KUDOU BOTH HAD SCORES OVER 400. THAT'S WHY THEIR AVATARS WERE SO FEROCIOUS.
WELL, I'M NOT REALLY SURE IF KUDOU'S ATTACK WAS A SPECIAL POWER OR WHAT...
OKAY. THEN THIS BATTLE...
THE SMARTEST CLASS IN SCHOOL FIGHTING LIKE BARBARIANS? KIND OF A LETDOWN...
CAMERA 4
...WILL BE A PLAIN OLD BARE-HANDED BEATING.


MINATO! I'LL TAKE ON THE BOY!!
YOU TAKE CARE OF THE GIRL(?), PLEASE!
YOU CAN'T, MISAO! BETWEEN THEM, THE BOY HAS THE HIGHER SCORE!!
I'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE AGAINST HIM, EVEN IF MY SCORE'S ONLY A LITTLE HIGHER THAN YOURS!!

H-HECK NO! I CAN'T FIGHT HER WITH THAT CRAZY LOOK IN HER EYES!!
I DON'T WANNA FIGHT HER EITHER !!

KUBO AND SHIMIZU'S SCORES DON'T ADD UP AS HIGH AS THOSE GIRLS...
BUT IT SURE FEELS LIKE THEY'LL WIN ANYWAY ...
YUP.

A-AKIHISA.. THE SCHOOL MUST BE HAUNTED ...!
SHIMIZU'S BEEN POSSESSED, I'M SURE OF IT...!!
I CAN NO LONGER SEE KUBO IN ANY OTHER ROLE THAN THAT OF A NECROMANCER CONTROLLING THREE DEMONS...
...WE'RE WITNESSES TO THE OCCULT.
I'M KINDA WORRIED ABOUT HOW HER CLASSMATES'LL LOOK AT HER AFTER TODAY.
URMF...
MIHARU WUV YOU SO MUCH...
WHY NO WUV HER BACK...?
MILADY... MILADY...
TO BE CONTINUED

BAKA
TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS

QUESTION 69
第69問
NOW WE JUST NEED YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA TO GET PAST THE FINAL CHECKPOINT AND WE WIN.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE HAUNTED HOUSE IN CLASS A.
KUBO AND (THE CREATURE THAT USED TO BE) SHIMIZU CRUSHED THE THIRD-YEAR PAIR BY A THIN MARGIN, AND SOMEHOW GOT THROUGH CLASS C, TOO.
YUUJI AND KIRISHIMA SHOULD FACE LITTLE RESISTANCE IN THE FINAL ACT.
THERE DON'T SEEM TO BE ANY SPECIAL TRAPS IN CLASS A.
INDEED. PERHAPS THE THIRD-YEARS HAD TOO MUCH WORK ON THEIR HANDS?
INSTEAD, THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE SIZE OF THE CLASSROOM TO MAKE A SIMPLE LABYRINTH, AND JUST HAVE MONSTER AVATARS WAITING TO POP OUT.
CLASS A IS SIX TIMES BIGGER THAN CLASS D. MAYBE THAT'S WHY THEY DIDN'T GO FOR ELABORATE DECORATIONS.

WH-WHOA!
EEEEK!!
THE PAIRS WHO WENT IN AFTER KUBO AND SHIMIZU ARE GETTING KNOCKED OUT OF THE RACE ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

THAT SAID, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE CHANGING UP THE PATH THROUGH THE LABYRINTH, SO WE CAN'T KEEP TRACK OF WHERE EXACTLY THE SCARES WILL BE.

WHERE...? MILADY WHERE...?
WE MUST HURRY BEFORE THEIR BOND BECOMES GREATER... KH...!
NO SIGN OF THEM ...

... THREE AND FIVE ARE DISQUALIFIED

LIKE A GRIM REAPER LOOKING FOR A VICTIM TO DRAG DOWN TO HELL.
CAMERA 4

QUESTION 69

第69問

THEY'RE THE ONES WHO BROKE THROUGH THE CHECK-POINT.
THAT SHOULDA TOLD THEM THAT NONE OF US WERE AHEAD OF THEM.

GOOD GOD. SHIMIZU WAS A GIVEN...
BUT I'M DISAPPOINTED THAT KUBO'S STARTING TO LOSE HIS REASON, TOO...

LOSING SIGHT OF AKIHISA AND SHIMADA MUST HAVE SENT THEM INTO A PANIC.
...LOVE MAKES YOU BLIND.

BWUH? I GET THAT SHIMIZU'S DEAD SET ON FINDING MINAMI...
...BUT WHY WOULD KUBO BE ALL PANICKY?
...

OH MAN! DOES HE HAVE A CRUSH ON SHIMIZU?
YUP, LOVE IS INDEED BLIND.
EH.. LET'S JUST SAY THAT WHEN YOUR CRUSH IS INVOLVED, YOU DON'T THINK STRAIGHT.
YOU REMAIN AS DENSE AS EVER.. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO SAY..
I'LL ASK HIM ABOUT IT WHEN I GET A CHANCE.
I WANNA HELP THE DUDE OUT, YOU KNOW?
BETTER NOT, MAN. YOU'LL HAVE KUBO WEEPING.
AKIHISA... SUCH CRUELTY..
...NOT COOL.
???
MAN, I REALLY DON'T GET WHAT THESE THREE ARE TRYING TO SAY.

WELL, LOOK WHO'S HERE.
WE'VE ONLY BEEN WAITING ALL DAY.

M-MILADY... WHERE?

WHERE...? WHERE DID THEY GO...?
HUH? A LIGHT...?

CAMERA
HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT SEEMS THEY'VE ARRIVED AT THE CHECKPOINT.

THEY'VE GOT MR. KIMURA, SO THAT MEANS THE BATTLE SUBJECT IS PHYSICS.

YOU'RE THE FIRST PAIR TO CHALLENGE US.
WE'LL TEACH YOU THE TRUE STRENGTH OF THE THIRD-YEARS. YOU BETTER MAKE YOUR PEACE.

FORGIVE ME, BUT I MUST ASK. HAVE YOU SEEN YOSHII AND SHIMADA HERE?
DUDE, YOU TWO ARE THE FIRST PEOPLE TO GET HERE.
WHAT? IMPOSSIBLE... THEY WERE AHEAD OF US!
I THINK THEIR CAMERA FEED SHOWED 'EM TURNING BACK HALFWAY THROUGH.

W-WHAT...?! THEN WE'VE BEEN WASTING OUR TIME ALL ALONG ...?!

I GOT NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE ON ABOUT.
BUT IF YOU WANNA SEE THEM AGAIN, THE FASTEST WAY IS TO GET YOUR ASSES HANDED TO YOU AND GO BACK TO YOUR CLASSROOM.
WHAT HE SAID. LET'S GET THIS SHOW STARTED.
OH...
SIGH

GOTTA WONDER IF THEIR GRADES ARE ABOUT THE SAME AS DURING THE LAST WAR...

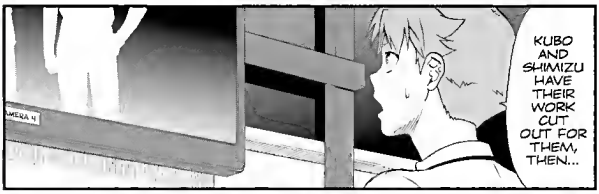
KUBO AND SHIMIZU ARE IN THE HUMANITIES CAMP.

FRANKLY, THEY'RE NOT GONNA HAVE AN EDGE IN A PHYSICS BATTLE.

THINK KUBO AND SHIMIZU CAN WIN?

THE THIRD-YEARS DO THEIR STUDYING WITH COLLEGE EXAMS IN MIND.

PHYSICS IS AN ELECTIVE TOO, SO THEIR CHOOSING TO FIGHT IN IT TELLS ME THEY MUST BE EXTRA CONFIDENT.



KUBO AND SHIMIZU HAVE THEIR WORK CUT OUT FOR THEM, THEN...

SINCE THEY CHOSE PHYSICS FOR THEIR STAGE, THE TSUNE-NATSU DUO MUST SPECIALIZE IN THE SCIENCES.

IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

YOU HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.

EH, IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THEY'D PICK THE SUBJECT THEY'VE GOT THE BIGGEST ADVANTAGE IN.

SINCE THAT SUBJECT DOESN'T SHOW UP ON COLLEGE EXAMS, MOST PEOPLE DON'T PUT MUCH EFFORT INTO IT.
THAT'S ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR THE THIRD-YEARS WHO HAVE THEIR EXAMS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER.
JUST LIKE HOW WE PICKED HEALTH FOR A SUBJECT.
IT'S THE PRINCIPAL'S POLICY THAT ALL STUDENTS TAKE HEALTH AND PHYS ED EACH YEAR.
BUT WHILE SECOND-YEARS HAVE TO TAKE CLASSES IN ALL SUBJECTS, THIRD-YEARS CAN PICK A CONCENTRATION, AND THAT GIVES THEM AN ADVANTAGE.
THAT MEANS EXPERTS IN OUR YEAR ARE AT A HUGE ADVANTAGE.
THEIR CONCENTRATIONS BECOME EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IN IRREGULAR BATTLES LIKE THIS.
CAMERA
BUT IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY FOR THIRD-YEARS, WHO CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE CLASSES THEY CHOSE.
3RD-YEAR
EVEN IF BOTH KIDS ARE GOOD AT SCIENCES, SECOND-YEARS STILL HAVE TO SPEND TIME ON THE HUMANITIES.

NOW, THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' 'BOUT, KUBO.
HE MAY NOT BE A SCIENCE GUY, BUT HE'S STILL RIGHT AROUND AN AVERAGE CLASS A GRADE.

--SUM-MON.
CLASS A TOSHIMITSU KUBO PHYSICS 213
CLASS D FORMERLY MIHARU SHIMIZU PHYSICS 71
UWOOOO

CAM
AS FOR SHIMIZU... LOOKS LIKE PHYSICS ISN'T HER FORTE. HER SCORE HITS CLOSE TO HOME.

IF THE OTHER TWO HAVE SCORES OF AROUND 300, THIS COULD BE BAD.
LIKELY OUT OF THE QUESTION.
THIS IS THE TSUNE-NATSU DUO, AFTER ALL.

WELL, YEAH. THE KIDS IN CLASS 3-A ARE NO JOKE.
...ALWAYS ONE STEP AHEAD.
THUMBS UP
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT YUUJI, THAT WAS GOOD THINKING, CHALLENGING THOSE TWO SPECIFICALLY
...YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE THEM DOWN.
AS LONG AS KUBO AND SHIMIZU MANAGE TO WHITTLE DOWN THE BOZOS' SCORE A BIT...
IN WHICH CASE YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA HAVE GOT THIS IN THE--
WHEN WE FOUGHT THEM BEFORE, THEIR SCORES WERE AROUND 200. SO IF PHYSICS IS THEIR BEST SUBJECT, WE CAN EXPECT SCORES OF AROUND 250 AT MOST.
CLASS A YUUSAKU TSU...
JAPANESE HISTORY 209 POINTS
SHUNPEI NATSUKAWA
CLASS A
JAPANESE HISTORY 197 POINTS
CLASS A YUUSAKU TSUNEMURA WORLD HISTORY 174
CLASS SHUNPEI NATSUKAWA WORLD HISTORY 163

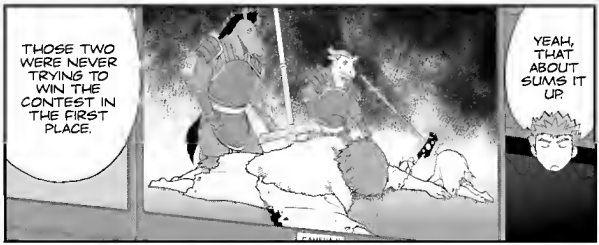
CLASS A
YUUSAKU
TSUNEMURA
PHYSICS
412
CLASS A
SHUNPEI
NATSUKAWA
PHYSICS
408
SAY WHAT?!

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA. WHAT GIVES?!
SINCE WHEN DID TSUNE-NATSU HAVE SUCH CRAZY GOOD GRADES?!
YOU'D THINK THEY WERE AT THE TOP OF THEIR CLASS.
...UN-BELIEV-ABLE.

AT LEAST TRY TO GIVE THESE FOLKS A GOOD SHOW, KIDS.
THEY MUSTA SEEN THROUGH MY PLANS...
THEY GOT US GOOD...! THAT EXPLAINS WHY THEY WERE SO QUICK TO BITE!
TURNS OUT WE WERE THE ONES UNDERESTIMATING OUR OPPONENTS...!!
DASH!
YOU MADE US WAIT FOR AGES.
YOU GOTTA STICK AROUND FOR A BIT!
OKAY, BUT STILL! KUBO AND SHIMIZU'LL SHAVE SOME OF THOSE POINTS OFF!!

I BELIEVE THAT THE PRIOR PLOT TWIST ROBBED THEIR HEARTS OF THE WILL TO FIGHT.
IT'S NO SURPRISE THEY WERE FELLED WITH ONE ATTACK.

CAMERA 2
--ALREADY?! THAT WAS TOO FAST!!
IF ANYONE CAN PULL IT OFF, THOSE TWO CAN. I BELIEVE IN--
WE HAD NO HOPE OF WINNING.
CAMERA 4


THOSE TWO WERE NEVER TRYING TO WIN THE CONTEST IN THE FIRST PLACE.
YEAH, THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP.

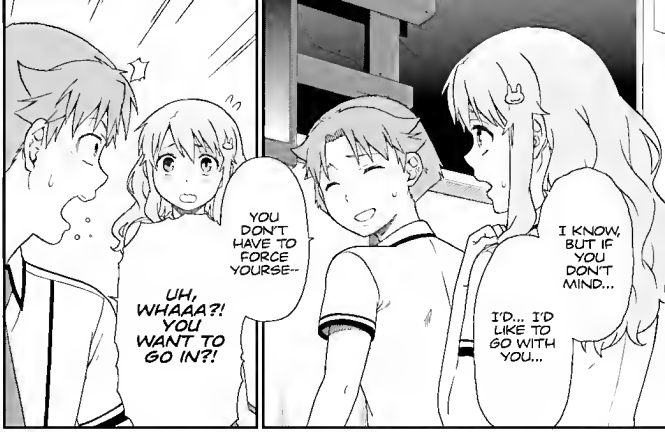
THAT'S PRETTY DANG TOUGH...
MMM... I'D SAY OUR CHANCES ARE AROUND 40/60 AT BEST.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, YUUJI? DO WE HAVE ANY CHANCE AT BEATING THEM?

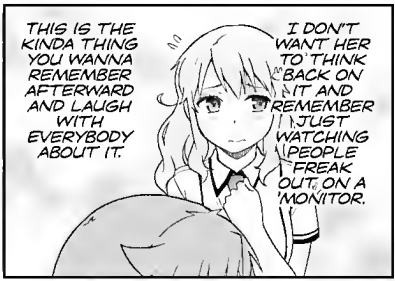
THE THIRD-YEARS HAVE THAT EXTRA YEAR OF EXPERIENCE CONTROLLING THEIR AVATARS, TOO. 'COURSE IT'LL BE TOUGH.
NOT GONNA SPEAK FOR SHOUKO, BUT MY SCORE IN PHYSICS IS ABOUT 150 AT THE MOST.
...ALSO TOUGH.
OKAY, BUT IF WE GET EVERYBODY ELSE TO WHITTLE THEM DOWN FIRST...
...BTW, YOU'RE IN ONE OF THOSE PAIRS.
BWUH? ME?
OTHER THAN YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA, IS THERE EVEN A PAIR THAT COULD MAKE IT TO THE CHECKPOINT WITHOUT SCREAMING?
...ONLY FOUR PAIRS LEFT, INCLUDING THE PAIRS IN THE LABYRINTH.

BUT MINAMI'S IN NO CONDITION TO FIGHT. YOU CAN'T COUNT ON US ANYMORE.
...
OH. OH YEAH. WE NEVER GOT DISQUALIFIED.
HUH? BUT HE JUST SAID MY PAIR IS STILL IN THE RUNNING.
AKIHISA. MUTTSULIN! DOES NOT MEAN...
...YOU AND MINAMI.
MUTTSULIN! GOT DISQUALIFIED. HIDEYOSHI, TOO. YUUJI HAS TO PAIR UP WITH MISS KIRISHIMA. THAT LEAVES...
OTHER THAN YOURSELF, YUUJI, AND KIRISHIMA, THERE IS ONE MORE PERSON HERE...
...WHO HAS YET TO BE DISQUALIFIED.

OH YEAH! WE'VE STILL GOT HIMEJI!!
M-MIGHT YOU MEAN ME?
MINAMI VOLUNTEERED TO GO IN, BUT SHE STILL GOT SO SCARED. I FELT AWFUL FOR HER.
WOULD SHE BE OKAY, THOUGH?
U-UM... I HONESTLY HAVE NO HEAD FOR HORROR...
SO I... I'M SURE I'D BE A BIG BOTHER TO AKIHISA... BUT I COULD STILL...
HEY, IT'S NO BIG DEAL, HIMEJI.
EVEN IF WE LOSE THE CONTEST, WE DON'T HAVE A BIG PUNISH-MENT--


UH, WHAAA?! YOU WANT TO GO IN?!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSE--
I'D... I'D LIKE TO GO WITH YOU...
I KNOW, BUT IF YOU DON'T MIND...

UM, YES. IF I WON'T BE A NUISANCE...
HEY, NOT AT ALL! YOU'D NEVER BE A NUISANCE!!
ACTUALLY, I'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU ABOARD!!


THIS IS THE KINDA THING YOU WANNA REMEMBER AFTERWARD AND LAUGH WITH EVERYBODY ABOUT IT.
I DON'T WANT HER TO THINK BACK ON IT AND REMEMBER JUST WATCHING PEOPLE FREAK OUT ON A MONITOR.

I DON'T SAY THAT THINKING ABOUT HER BATTLE POWER... EITHER. I'M HONESTLY JUST PLAIN HAPPY THAT HIMEJI'S GETTING IN ON THIS!

SNEER
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SNEER
ニヤ
TIME TO BE BRAVE.
...YOU'LL LOSE YOUR CHANCE.
IT'S ABOUT TIME. IF YOU MAKE NO MOVE AFTER WATCHING SHIMADA AND AKIHISA LIKE THAT...
OH YEAH? FINALLY GOT UP THE NERVE, HIMEJI?
OKAY, OKAY. ROGER THAT. MY LIPS ARE SEALED.
S-SAKAMOTO! I-I'LL GET VERY ANGRY IF YOU SAY ANYTHING MORE!!
O-OH! RIGHT, OKAY!
LET'S GET A MOVE ON!!
L-LET'S BE ON OUR WAY, AKIHISA.
GOING FOR IT EVEN THOUGH SHE'S SCARED, HUH? WATCHING MINAMI MUSTA HELPED HIMEJI FIND HER COURAGE.
うん
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GUESS I'D BETTER GET READY TO GO IN, MYSELF.
...YUUJI, IF YOU'RE SCARED YOU CAN HOLD ONTO ME.
I'LL PASS. AND IF YOU GET SCARED, DEAL WITH IT YOURSELF.
...CAN'T. I'M A BIG SCAREDY-CAT.
I'LL HAVE TO HOLD ONTO YOU THE WHOLE TIME.
ONE OF THESE DAYS I'MA SHOW YOU HOW YOU LOOK WHEN YOU'RE ATTACKING ME.
NOW THAT'S THE FACE OF A REAL MON-STER.
...EEK. I'M SO SCARED.
GUOOHH?! M-MY SHOUL-DER?!
NOM

...AHA. "GRAAAH" SOUNDS RIGHT...
KREESH
GRAAAH!!
DAMMIT! YOU WON'T FOOL M---
YOU'RE PRAC-TICING SCREAMS ?!
...COUGH, COUGH.
...EEK. EEK...? NOOO...?
MAN, YUUJI. HOPE HIS SCREAMS FROM ARM LOCKS DON'T GET THEM DISQUALIFIED.
CLASS A
O-OKAY. I GOTCHA.
A-AKIHISA... DON'T LET GO OF MY HAND, OKAY...?

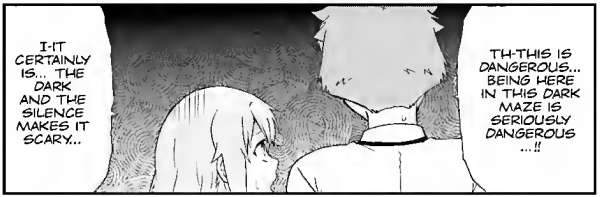
BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME SHE'S NOT GONNA NOTICE.
...I'M NOT SCARED... I'M NOT SCARED ...!
AKIHISA'S HERE WITH ME, SO NOTHING'S SCARY AT ALL...!
PRETTY EMBARRASSING TO HOLD HANDS NOW...
MY HANDS ARE ALL SWEATY 'CAUSE HAVING HIMEJI RIGHT NEXT TO ME IS MAKING ME NERVOUS.

I MEAN, WE HAVEN'T BEEN IN HERE ALL THAT LONG, BUT STILL IT'S TOO QUIET.

H-HEY. WE HAVEN'T RUN INTO ANY MONSTERS YET... AT ALL...

I GUESS THEY MIGHT BE MORE SPREAD OUT IN CLASS A SINCE IT'S SO MUCH BIGGER, THOUGH?
BACK IN CLASS C, WE WOULD'VE RUN INTO FOUR OR FIVE AVATARS BY NOW.

HNGAAH!!
IF THAT KIND OF MEAT BUNS ENEMY PLAN IS SO SOFT WHAT THEY'LL COME AFTER US WITH SMELLS SO NICE THEN EVEN IF WE'RE DISQUALIFIED, I'M READY AND WILLING TO LIVE HERE WITH HIMEJI FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE, WHICH MEANS THAT FIRST I MUST SECURE A WATER SOURCE, AS PART OF OUR MISSION TO CRUSH TSUNE-NATSU.
OR ARE THEY TRYING TO BUILD UP OUR EXPECTATIONS SO THEY CAN GET THE JUMP ON US ONCE WE'VE ALREADY FREAKED OURSELVES OUT?
AKIHISA ...!
SQUISH


I-IT CERTAINLY IS... THE DARK AND THE SILENCE MAKES IT SCARY..
TH-THIS IS DANGEROUS... BEING HERE IN THIS DARK MAZE IS SERIOUSLY DANGEROUS ...!!

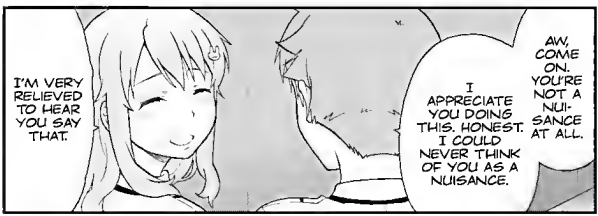
DANGER, MAN. THIS IS THE FACE OF TRUE DANGER!
IF I JUMPED ON HIMEJI IN HERE, NOT ONLY WOULD IT MAKE HER SCREAM AND DISQUALIFY US, HIMEJI WOULD HATE ME, THE GUYS WOULD MOB ME AND BEAT ME TO A PULP, I'D GET EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL, AKIRA WOULD FORCE KISSES ON ME, AND MY LIFE WOULD BECOME NOTHING BUT DARKNESS!
OH MAN, I WAS THIS CLOSE FROM TURNING INTO YUUJI'S AVATAR (A WEREWOLF).

???
ERM, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN. I'M NOT SCARED.
JUST SAYIN' IT'S DANGER-OUS.

O-OH, YOU SHOULDN'T THANK ME.
THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME COME WITH YOU EVEN THOUGH I'M A NUISANCE.

E-ERM, HIMEJI?
Y-YES ...?

THANKS FOR COMING INTO THE HAUNTED HOUSE EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T LIKE 'EM.

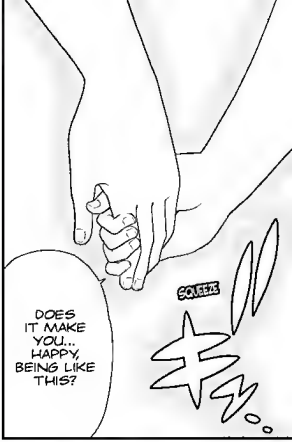

I'M VERY RELIEVED TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.
I APPRECIATE YOU DOING THIS. HONEST. I COULD NEVER THINK OF YOU AS A NUISANCE.
AW, COME ON. YOU'RE NOT A NUI-SANCE AT ALL.

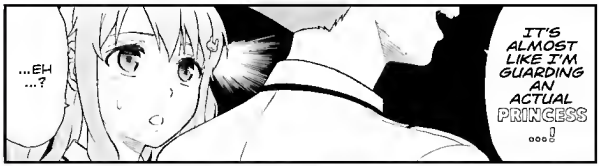
I'M NOT ATHLETIC AT ALL, SO PHYSICAL EVENTS LIKE THIS ARE FAR FROM MY FORTE...
UM, AKIHISA? I'M SO SORRY..

W-WELL, I...
YES... I'M SCARED ...
STILL, YOU MUST BE SCARED, RIGHT?

O-OH. YOU DON'T GOTTA APOLOGIZE.
I'M ALWAYS LEANING ON YOU LIKE THIS...
BUT ...!
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE ALWAYS PUTTING YOURSELF DOWN FOR STUFF LIKE THAT...
BUT US GUYS DON'T SEE THOSE TRAITS AS BAD THINGS AT ALL.
'CAUSE IT'S, YOU KNOW...
...CUTE AND ALL...
COMING ALONG EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU'RE BIG ON, LEANING ON ME AND MAKING ME FEEL NEEDED...
ANY GUY WOULD JUMP FOR JOY OVER THAT.
SO NOBODY WOULD BE ANNOYED ABOUT IT.
C-CUTE?... OHHH...
THEN ...
U-UH-HUH? WHAT IS IT, HIMEJI?

Y-YEAH, OF COURSE! YOU'RE CUTE, AND SMART, AND NICE, AND YOU'RE LIKE, CLOSE TO PERFECT..

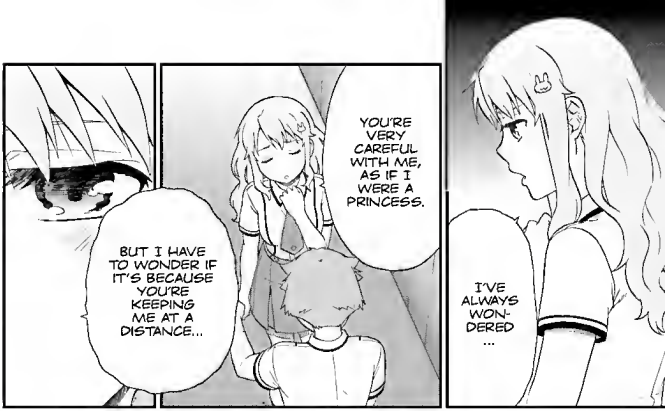

DOES IT MAKE YOU... HAPPY, BEING LIKE THIS?
SO...!
...


...EH ...?
IT'S ALMOST LIKE I'M GUARDING AN ACTUAL PRINCESS ...!

HMM?
A DUMB, UNRELIABLE KID WHO DOESN'T KNOW EVEN HOW TO FIGHT--
ANYHOO, THE PROBLEM IS THAT YOU'RE STUCK WITH ME.

THE "HIME" IN "HIMEJI" MEANS PRINCESS-- A PERFECT NAME FOR HER.
AS THEY SAY, "NAMES AND NATURE DO OFTEN AGREE."

WHAT'S WRONG, HIMEJI?
...DID YOU SAY.. PRINCESS ...?
...FOR A WHILE NOW... THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING I WANTED TO ASK YOU...
...FOR A WHILE NOW...
FWEH?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME...?
...AKIHI-SA...
W-WHAT COULD IT BE? ASK AWAY!


I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED...
YOU'RE VERY CAREFUL WITH ME, AS IF I WERE A PRINCESS.
BUT I HAVE TO WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE KEEPING ME AT A DISTANCE...

D-DISTANCE?
I-I DIDN'T REALLY DO IT CONSCIOUSLY... I THINK.

I-I DID...
BECAUSE... YOU JUST SAID...
THAT I'M A "CLOSE TO PERFECT PRINCESS," YES?
YOU'RE WRONG...!

I'M NOT PERFECT AT ALL...!
I'M CLUMSY AT EVERYTHING I DO, I'M QUICK TO GET JEALOUS...
I'M PRAISED FOR MY GOOD GRADES, BUT THEN WHEN YOU NEED THEM, I'M SICK...
AND I'M POS-SES-SIVE ...!
SOREZE
I HAVE SO MANY FAULTS, I'M NOTHING BUT A BOTHER...
TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE.
BUT IT IS!
I HAVE SO MANY FAULTS, BUT YOU DON'T REALIZE IT AT ALL!
I'M SURE THAT'S THE REASON FOR THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US.

IS IT THAT STRANGE ...
...FOR YOU AND I TO BE TOGETHER?
YOU'RE SO... SO BRIGHT, AND KIND, AND YOU HAVE THIS CHARM THAT DRAWS PEOPLE TO YOU.
I WOULD UNDERSTAND IF YOU SAY WE'RE TOO DIFFERENT.

BUT YOU THINK TOO MUCH OF ME, AND TOO LITTLE OF YOURSELF ...
...AND THAT'S WHY YOU ALWAYS KEEP YOURSELF ONE STEP AWAY...!

YOU'RE SO DELICATE WITH ME...
WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME...
...YOU ACTUALLY SEE SOMEONE ELSE, DON'T YOU...?
TO BE CONTINUED

BAKA TEST

SUMMON THE BEASTS

BAKA
TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS

...
...YOU ACTUALLY SEE SOMEONE ELSE, DON'T YOU...?
WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME...
YOU'RE SO DELICATE WITH ME...

IF I WAS THE ODD ONE OUT WHEN ALL OF MY FRIENDS WERE SUPER TIGHT, I'D HATE IT.
I THINK I GET WHY SHE'D BE UPSET ABOUT PEOPLE HOLDING BACK AROUND HER.

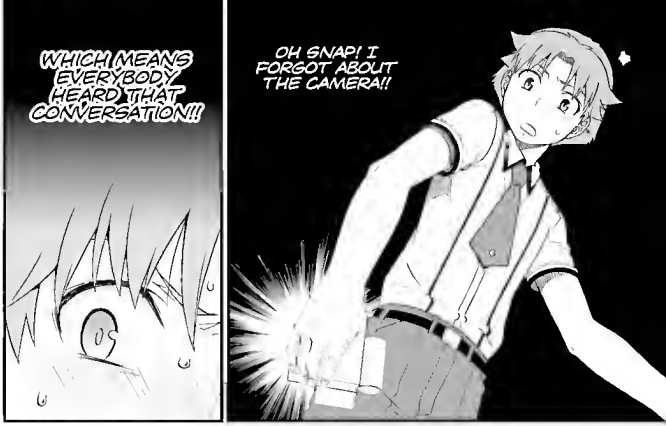
I HAD NO CLUE HIMEJI WAS FRETTING OVER SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

HIMEJI'S ALWAYS BEEN SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT HER FRAILTY. MAYBE IT'S MADE HER EXTRA SENSITIVE TO STUFF LIKE THIS.

QUESTION 70

第70問

WHAT AM I SAYING ...?
I-I'M SO SORRY.. YOU DO SO MUCH FOR ME...
OH...!
P-PLEASE FORGET I SAID ANYTHING.
H-HEY, HIMEJI ...
I'M JUST A LITTLE DISCOM-BOBULATED BECAUSE I'M SCARED, THAT'S ALL.
IT'S REALLY NO...
...THING ...

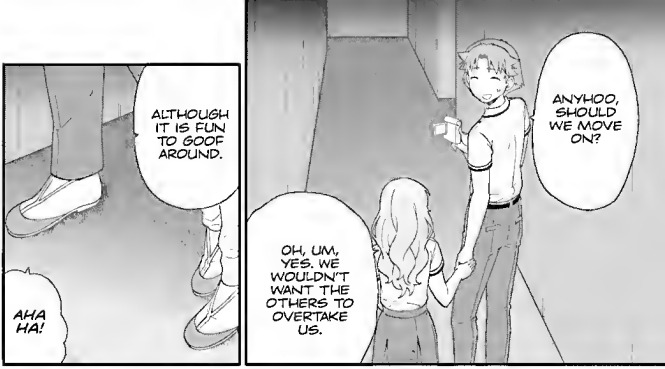

WHICH MEANS EVERYBODY HEARD THAT CONVERSATION!!
OH SNAP! I FORGOT ABOUT THE CAMERA!!

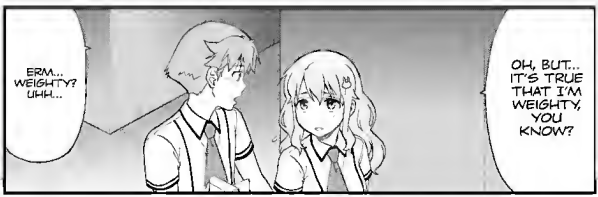
SO I WANTED TO SHOCK YOU. EHEH!
B-BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T SEEM NERVOUS AT ALL!

A-AHA HA HA! GEEZ, YOU DID SURPRISE ME!
SO MUCH SO THAT I ALMOST GOT LOUD ENOUGH TO DIS-QUALIFY US... AHA HA HA.

U-UMM, UMM... THAT IS...
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT SURPRISE YOU IF I SAID ALL OF THAT!

WELL, IT'S EASIER TO GET THROUGH SCARY THINGS IF YOU JOKE AROUND, ISN'T IT? AHA HA.
SHEESH, HIMEJI, YOU SURE OVERDID IT.
TO SOME PEOPLE, THAT MIGHT'VE SOUNDED LIKE YOU HAVE A THING FOR ME!
OH, UM, THAT...
...ISN'T FUNNY...
I-IT ISN'T FUNNY...
N-NO DUH... IT'S TOTALLY NOT FUNNY...
AAAHH! N-NO!
I DIDN'T MEAN THAT IN THE WAY YOU'RE THINKING ...!
WELL, I GET THE FEELING THAT WE'RE BACK TO OUR USUAL KIND OF CONVERSATION.


ANYHOO, SHOULD WE MOVE ON?
OH, UM, YES. WE WOULDN'T WANT THE OTHERS TO OVERTAKE US.
ALTHOUGH IT IS FUN TO GOOF AROUND.
AHA HA!


OH, BUT.. IT'S TRUE THAT I'M WEIGHTY, YOU KNOW?
ERM... WEIGHTY? UHH...

DOES SHE MEAN THE PART OF HER THAT'S GROWN REALLY NICELY COMPARED TO... THE AVERAGE?

MY WEIGHT, UM... I AM A LITTLE... WELL...
A... I-I DIDN'T MEAN MY PHYSICAL WEIGHT!
I MEANT THE WAY I THINK, MY FEELINGS, THEY'RE WEIGHTY.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE WEIGHTY AT ALL.
BUT I AM!
BOTH MY WEIGHT AND MY THOUGHTS ...
THAT'S WHY I... HAVE TO WONDER ...
YOU SEEM SO CLOSE TO MINAMI...
...BUT IT'S LIKE YOU HOLD YOURSELF BACK AROUND ME...

STRUT
STRUT
LET'S CONTINUE, SHALL WE?
N-NO, NOTHING!
HMM? DIDJA SAY SOMETHING?

I-I'M NOT THAT FAR AHEAD, AM I?
IF I MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU SHOULD WORRY OVER SOMETHING THIS SMALL, IT'S NO WONDER YOU'RE SO DELICATE WITH ME...!
WAIT, HIMEJI, WE SHOULD STAY CLOSE--

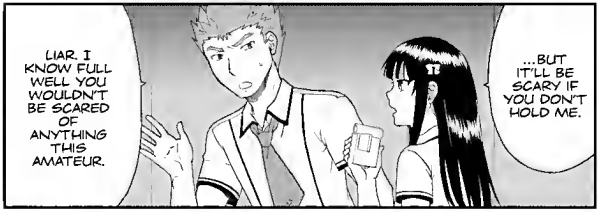
HOW COME I FEEL KINDA DISAP-POINTED, THOUGH?
BUT IF HIMEJI'S TRYING TO BE BRAVE, I GUESS I'D BETTER NOT STOP HER.

SHE DOESN'T LOOK OKAY TO ME AT ALL...
FLINCH
FLINCH

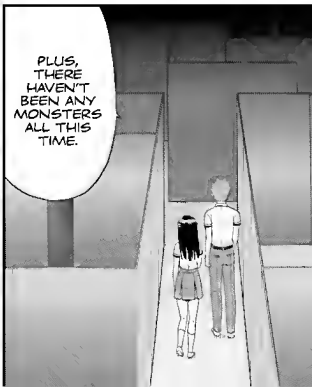
HUGGH HUGGH
IT MUST BE PART OF THEIR PLAN.
WHAT'S WITH THAT?
STILL NO MONSTERS OR TRAPS ...
WHICH MEANS THEY'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE UP THEIR SLEEVES.
THEN AGAIN, I DOUBT THEY WOULD EXPECT GOING AFTER THOSE TWO WITH QUANTITY TO WORK...
MAYBE THEY SENT EVERYTHING THEY HAVE AFTER YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA, AND ARE SAVING US FOR LATER?
NOW WHY WOULD THEY LEAVE A WEAK PAIR LIKE US ALONE?
...YUUJI, I'M SCARED. HOLD ME.

...THERE NOW YOU CAN DO IT.
SNATCH
UH, I WASN'T SAYING I'D HOLD YOU IF YOU TOOK THE CAMERA...

NO THANKS.
ANYWAY, I HAVE MY HANDS FULL WITH THE CAMERA.


LIAR. I KNOW FULL WELL YOU WOULDN'T BE SCARED OF ANYTHING THIS AMATEUR.
...BUT IT'LL BE SCARY IF YOU DON'T HOLD ME.

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...LET ME REPHRASE


PLUS, THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY MONSTERS ALL THIS TIME.

...IT'LL BE SCARY FOR YOU IF YOU DON'T HOLD ME.
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
...
...YUUJI, YOU WON'T GET AWAY.
SPRINT
OH CRAP ...!!

I CAN'T DIE HERE ...!!
GOOD TO KNOW THEY'RE AS CLOSE AS EVER.

BUT...
THEY HAVEN'T RUN INTO ANY MONSTERS EITHER...?

IT'S JUST WEIRD THAT THEY WOULDN'T THREATEN YUUJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA. THIS IS GETTING MORE AND MORE SUSPICIOUS...
THEY HAVE GOT TO BE UP TO SOME-THING.

A-AKIHISA ...?
WHA ...?

...?!

OH SNAP. I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET GO OF HER HAND.

KEEP CALM, HIMEJI. JUST DON'T MOVE. WE SHOULD WAIT UNTIL OUR EYES ADJUST.
AND I THINK YOU SHOULD KEEP YOUR EYES CLOSED, TOO.
O-OKAY. I WILL.
THEY COULD TRY TO SCARE US BY HAVING MONSTERS APPEAR RIGHT IN FRONT OF US WHEN THE LIGHTS COME BACK ON.

I HEAR SOMETHING BEING MOVED...
FEELS LIKE THEY'LL COME AT US ANY SECOND NOW!!

ZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZ

HIMEJI WAS ONLY A FEW STEPS AWAY FROM ME, AND NOW THERE'S A WALL BETWEEN US!
DID THEY MOVE THE WALLS AROUND?!
GRASP
UM, HUH? WHERE'D THE PATH GO?
THIS IS BAD... REALLY BAD...!! I GOTTA FIND MY WAY BACK TO HIMEJI...!!
WHEW. I FOUND HER!
TOUCH
SORRY HIMEJI I KNOW YOU WERE SCARED
IT'S OKAY THERE'S NOTHING...

BLINK

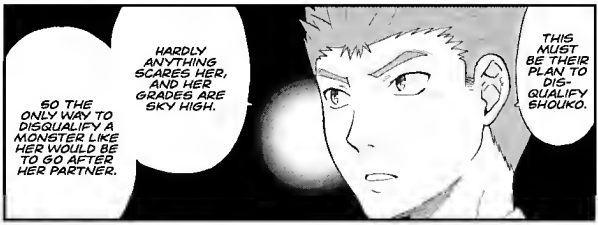
YOU'RE DEAD MEAT.
--RE-VOLTING.

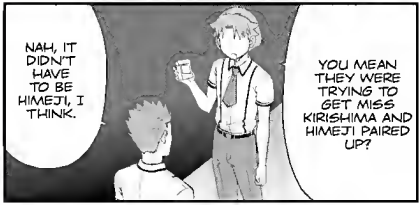
SHUT UP AND GET YOUR SWEATY HAND OFFA ME.
URGH.. YOUR FACE SUDDENLY APPEARING RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME IS TRAUMATIZING ENOUGH..
BUT THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE IS EVEN WORSE 'CAUSE I WAS EXPECTING HIMEJI..

WAIT, WE CAN'T GET DISTRACTED.
YUUJI, HAVE YOU SEEN HIMEJI?
NOPE.
OH NO. I GOTTA FIND HER FAST...!!!
THANKS ANYWAY.
I GOTTA RUN.
HOLD UP, AKIHISA.
WHAT? DUDE, I'M IN A HURRY.
I DOUBT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FIND HIMEJI
BWUH? HOW COME?
BECAUSE THEY'VE GOT US DANCING IN THE PALMS OF THEIR HANDS.

HIMEJI WOULD SCREAM AFTER RUNNING INTO SHOUKO?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I BET HIMEJI JUST RAN INTO SHOUKO.
WE MIGHT HEAR HER SCREAMS ANY MINUTE NOW.


THIS MUST BE THEIR PLAN TO DIS-QUALIFY SHOUKO.
HARDLY ANYTHING SCARES HER, AND HER GRADES ARE SKY HIGH.
SO THE ONLY WAY TO DISQUALIFY A MONSTER LIKE HER WOULD BE TO GO AFTER HER PARTNER.


NAH, IT DIDN'T HAVE TO BE HIMEJI, I THINK.
YOU MEAN THEY WERE TRYING TO GET MISS KIRISHIMA AND HIMEJI PAIRED UP?

ONLY THEY WON'T GET ME TO SCREAM.
SO THEY SWITCHED UP OUR PAIRS.

ANY-BODY?
ANYBODY WHO SEEMED EASY ENOUGH TO SCARE WOULD DO.

YUP. THE THIRD-YEARS HAVE A GOOD IDEA OF OUR NUMBERS.
SO THEY'D HAVE SOME-BODY TO PAIR WITH MISS KIRISHIMA?

I'M THINKING IT'S NOT THAT THE THIRD-YEARS JUST THAT THEY CHOSE NOT TO.
COULDN'T HAVE MADE THEM SCREAM.
THERE WERE STILL A FEW PAIRS LOST IN THE LABYRINTH BEFORE WE WENT IN, RIGHT?

THEY PREDICTED THAT ME AND SHOUKO WOULD GO IN LAST, SO THEY CHANCED LEAVING SOME OF OUR PAIRS IN THE GAME AS PAWNS.

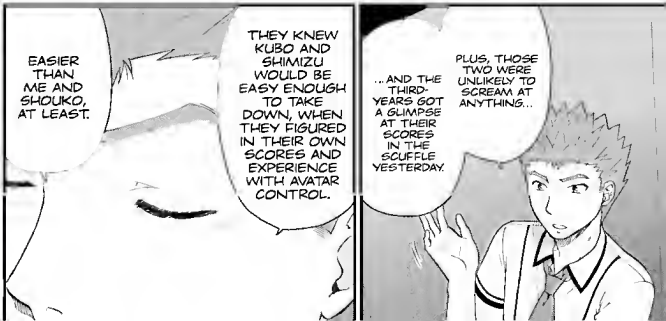
I MEAN, YOU HAVE TO SPLIT PEOPLE UP TO FORCE THEM TO CHANGE PARTNERS, RIGHT?
WOULDN'T THEY NEED REALLY CONVENIENT TIMING FOR THAT?

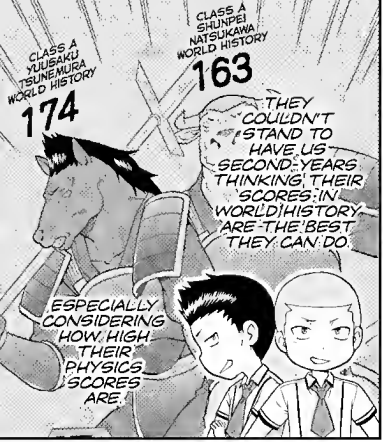
HUH? BUT DOESN'T THAT LEAVE TOO MUCH UP TO LUCK?

NOT HARD TO IMAGINE THEM DOING THAT.
DUDE. THAT'S LOW...

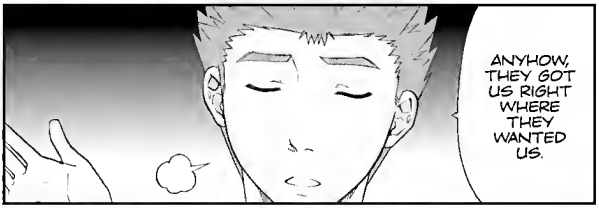
IT'S IN THE RULES THAT WE CAN'T MESS WITH THE SET. THAT STILL APPLIES EVEN WITH MOVEABLE WALLS.
THEY COULD HAVE IT SET UP SO THERE IS NO PATH TO THE CHECKPOINT, UNTIL THEY WANT US TO GET THERE.
THAT'S WHY THEY MADE A LABY-RINTH.

THEY LET THEM THROUGH TO CAMOUFLAGE THEIR PLAN TO KEEP PEOPLE LOST, PROBABLY.
SQUICK
WAIT, THEN HOW DID KUBO AND SHIMIZU MAKE IT THERE?


EASIER THAN ME AND SHOUKO, AT LEAST.
THEY KNEW KUBO AND SHIMIZU WOULD BE EASY ENOUGH TO TAKE DOWN, WHEN THEY FIGURED IN THEIR OWN SCORES AND EXPERIENCE WITH AVATAR CONTROL.
...AND THE THIRD-YEARS GOT A GLIMPSE AT THEIR SCORES IN THE SCUFFLE YESTERDAY.
PLUS, THOSE TWO WERE UNLIKELY TO SCREAM AT ANYTHING...


CLASS A YUUSAKU TSUNEMURA WORLD HISTORY
174
CLASS A SHUNPEI NATSUKAWA WORLD HISTORY
163
"THEY COULDN'T STAND TO HAVE US SECOND-YEARS THINKING THEIR SCORES IN WORLD HISTORY ARE THE BEST THEY CAN DO.
ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING HOW HIGH THEIR PHYSICS SCORES ARE.

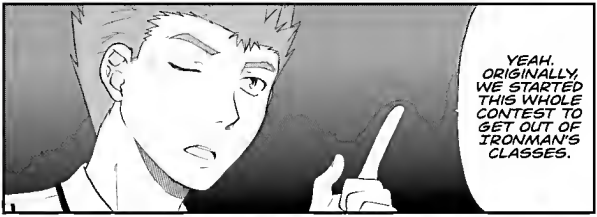
OR IT COULD'VE BEEN A MATTER OF PRIDE.
YEAH, THAT SOUNDS MORE LIKE THOSE TWO.


ANYHOW, THEY GOT US RIGHT WHERE THEY WANTED US.

I MEAN, YOU ALWAYS JUMP STRAIGHT TO A COUNTER-PLAN WHENEVER WE GET TRICKED.
YEAH, YOU GOT A POINT THERE.

OH YEAH? YOU THINK?
HUH... HEY, YUUJI?
YOU DON'T SEEM YOURSELF.

IS SOMETHING UP?
NAH, IT'S NOTHIN'.
THEN WHY AREN'T YOU GETTING ALL MIFFED AND GOING INTO PLANNING MODE?
'CAUSE WE ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED THE GOAL.
THE GOAL?


YEAH. ORIGINALLY, WE STARTED THIS WHOLE CONTEST TO GET OUT OF IRONMAN'S CLASSES.

DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER WE WIN OR NOT.
GETTING THIS THING GOING WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
'COURSE, IT WOULD IRK ME TO LOSE TO THEM.
AND I DIDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH MUCH SETUP OR CLEANUP.
SO I DID HAVE TO DO SOME STRATEGIZING.

SO FOR US THERE'S NOT A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOSING OR WINNING THE CONTEST.
LIKE YUUJI SAID, IT WOULD JUST IRK US TO LOSE TO TSUNE-NATSU.
THE LOSERS ONLY HAVE TO DO THE SETUP AND CLEAN FOR FIELD DAY FOR THE WINNERS.
SOUNDS HEAVENLY COMPARED TO CLASS F'S IRONMAN SUMMER CLASS MARATHON FROM HELL.
PLUS YOU'RE SUP-POSED TO USE CLASS TIME FOR THE SETUP.
KNOWING IRONMAN, IF WE WIN, HE WOULDN'T LET US HAVE FREE TIME. ANYWAY, HE'D USE THE TIME TO BEAT SOME KNOWLEDGE INTO US.
NOW THAT JUST SOUNDS LIKE YOU BEING A SORE LOSER.
GUH...
AND ANYWAY, A HAUNTED HOUSE IS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN.
IT'S NOTH-ING TO GET HUNG UP ABOUT.
STARE
SERIOUSLY? I WAS RIGHT?

BUT I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE ALL THE IMPORTANT PARTS TO YOU...
...AND TSUNENATSU WILL TALK SMACK AT ME, SO I DON'T LIKE IT.
HUH? FOR REAL?

I DO MORE OR LESS HAVE A PLAN FOR US TO WIN THIS...

NO, I'M JUST CONCERNED THAT YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PULL IT OFF.
I GET IT. YOU'RE JEALOUS THAT I'LL GET ALL THE SPOTLIGHT, HUH?

YEAH... I GUESS HIMEJI SHOULD FEEL SAFE WITH MISS KIRISHIMA.

MOVING ON. THAT'S HOW IT IS, SO FOR NOW WE'RE JUST GONNA WATCH.
SHOUKO WILL LOOK AFTER HIMEJI.

HUH? WAIT A SEC.
MAN... COMING IN WITH HIMEJI ONLY TO GET STUCK WITH YUUJI... THIS SUCKS.
ROGER THAT.
LET'S GO AFTER THEM, AKIHISA.
HE HAD ALREADY FIGURED OUT THE THIRD-YEARS' PLAN. WHY DIDN'T HE DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT?
LIKE YUUJI JUST SAID...
I DON'T WANNA THINK THIS, BUT...
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING WE COULD DO TO AVOID THIS.

AND WHAT ARE YOU REALLY THINK-ING?
WE'RE ONLY IN CLASS F. WHO COULD BLAME US IF WE COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH THIS GAME OF WITS?
COME ON, AKIHISA. THEY'RE A YEAR AHEAD OF US, SO THEIR PLANS WERE NO JOKE.

YUUJI, YOU JERKWAD... DID YOU LET US FALL INTO THEIR TRAP SO YOU COULD GET AWAY FROM MISS KIRISHIMA?

OH YEAH. THAT WAS THE PARK-ATTRACTION I PLANNED.
DASH!
WHEN I WENT THROUGH THE HAUNTED HOUSE WITH SHOUKO, SOMEHOW THE FEAR OF HER ATTACKING ME WITH A BAT FULL OF NAILS REPLAYED IN MY HEAD.

OH, LOOK. MISS KIRISHIMA'S COMING AROUND THAT CORNER.
DON'T BE STUPID. I'M NOT ONE BIT SCARED OF GHOSTS OR MONSTERS OR ANY OF THAT JAZZ.

GEEZ LOUISE, YUUJI. HERE YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ALL BIG...
...WHEN YOU WERE JUST SCARED OF HAUNTED HOUSES!

AHA. NOW I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF.
BAM
OH HELL...! GO, AKIHISA BARRIER ...!!

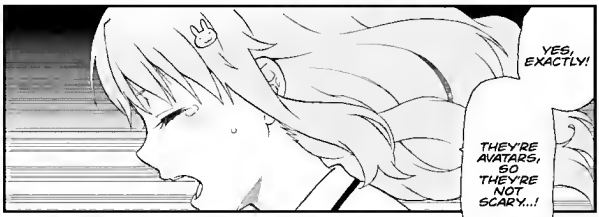
DAMN YOU..!! YOU WERE ABOUT TO CALL ME YOUR SHIELD, WEREN'T YOU...!!
DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF, MY SHIELDoo
AKIHISA.

I MEAN IT'S STRANGE THAT WE STILL HAVEN'T HEARD HIMEJI SCREAM.
HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT.

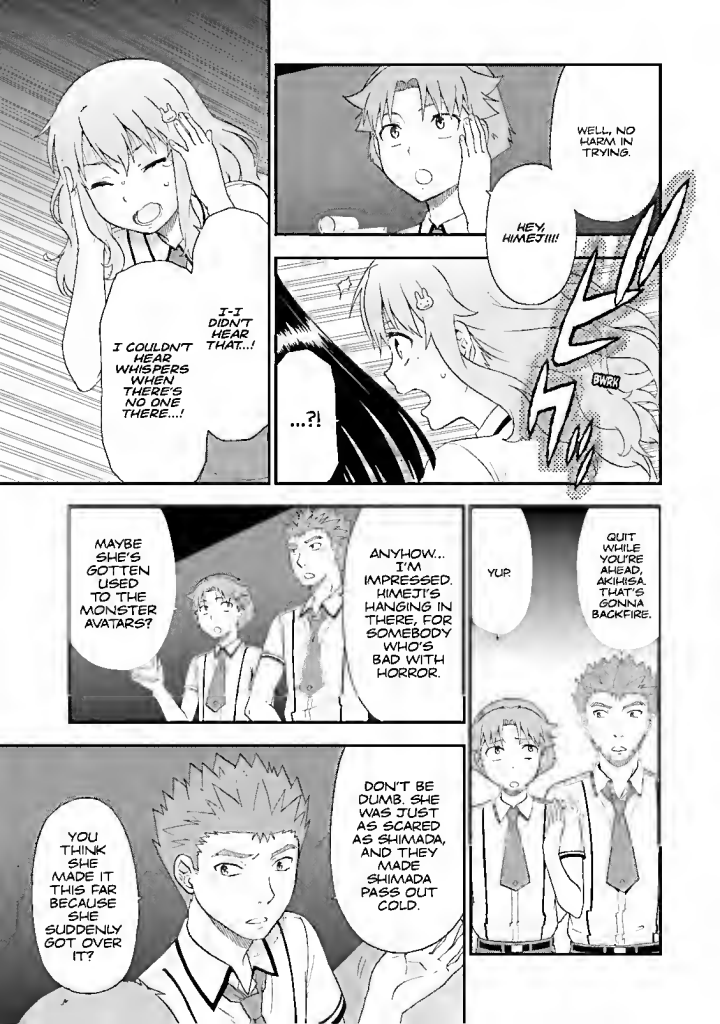
NO, YOU DISPOS-ABLE SHIELD.
YOUR BRAIN IS?

BUT YOU KNOW, IT'S THE STRANG-EST THING.

...HIMEJI. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
Y-YES...! I'M FINE...! I'M NOT SCARED...!
...THE AVATARS ONLY LOOK DIFFERENT THAN USUAL. THEY'RE NOT SCARY.

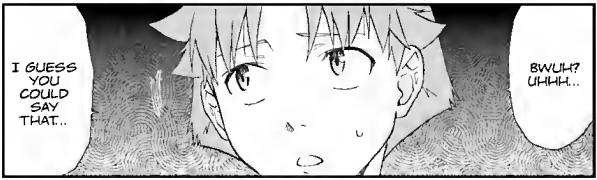

YES, EXACTLY!
THEY'RE AVATARS, SO THEY'RE NOT SCARY...!

THINK THEY'D HEAR US IF WE CALLED OUT?
DUNNO ABOUT THAT.
SHE'S CONCENTRATING ON NOT SCREAMING. I DON'T THINK SHE WOULD.


I-I DIDN'T HEAR THAT...!
I COULDN'T HEAR WHISPERS WHEN THERE'S NO ONE THERE...!
...?!
HEY, HIMEJI!!!
BWRK
WELL, NO HARM IN TRYING.
QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD, AKIHISA. THAT'S GONNA BACKFIRE.
YUP.
ANYHOW... I'M IMPRESSED. HIMEJI'S HANGING IN THERE, FOR SOMEBODY WHO'S BAD WITH HORROR.
MAYBE SHE'S GOTTEN USED TO THE MONSTER AVATARS?
DON'T BE DUMB. SHE WAS JUST AS SCARED AS SHIMADA, AND THEY MADE SHIMADA PASS OUT COLD.
YOU THINK SHE MADE IT THIS FAR BECAUSE SHE SUDDENLY GOT OVER IT?

SOME-
THING
HAPPENED
WHEN YOU
TWO WERE
ALONE,
DIDN'T
IT?
BE
STRAIGHT
WITH ME,
AKIHISA.

FEAR IS
LIKE INSTINCT.
IT'S NOT
SOMETHING
YOU JUST
GET OVER
IN SUCH A
SHORT TIME.
YEAH, I
GUESS
YOU'RE
RIGHT.


I GUESS
YOU
COULD
SAY
THAT..
BWUH?
UHHH..

YEAH, I
GUESS
EVEN HIMEJI
HAS SOME
INSECURITIES.
WHISP
I ONLY
HEARD BITS
AND PIECES
OF YOUR
CONVERSATION
EARLIER...
...BUT WAS
SHE SAYING
SOMETHING
ABOUT
WORRYING
ABOUT
DISTANCE?

HE MUST
WANNA
KNOW
WHAT
HIMEJI
TOLD ME.
BUT
IT'S NOT
REALLY
SOME-
THING I
SHOULD
BE
TELLING
PEOPLE
WILLY-
NILLY...

TRYING?
ANYWAY, I THINK THAT'S HER OWN WAY OF TRYING.
HEY, DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA. SHE ONLY CAME TO ME AS A FRIEND, AND IN A ROUNDABOUT WAY AT THAT.
HUH?
SEEMS LIKE IT.
ACTUALLY, HIMEJI'S TALKED TO ME ABOUT THAT TOO, MORE OR LESS.
I GUESS SHE THINKS SHE'S BEEN THE DAMSEL IN DISTRESS TOO OFTEN. SEEMS LIKE IT REALLY GETS TO HER.
SHE'S DOING HER BEST TO BECOME A CLOSER... FRIEND, WHO YOU CAN GO TO FOR HELP.
I DON'T THINK IT'S SUCH A BIG DEAL...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, SHE'S SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT BEFORE.

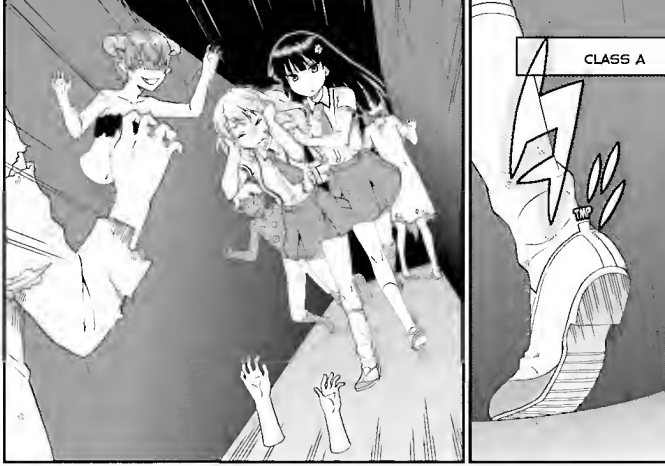
It's not like I want her to be a damsel in distress. Actually, I'm pretty sure Himeji's bailed us out more often than we've helped her.
Yeah... you're right.
It's something she's gotta deal with personally.
You might not, but Himeji does.
...Then I shouldn't butt in. I should support her from the shadows instead.
But if pushing through this with her own strength makes her feel better...
GRUUOOH!
URGH...! HIC...!
Not to mention it's plain fact that if she makes it to the end, they could win this for us.

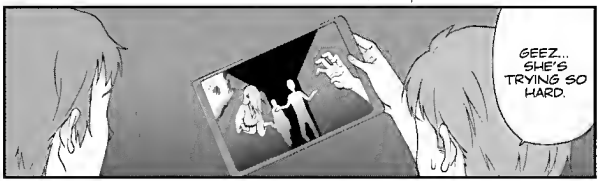
...IT'S OKAY, HIMEJI. IT'S ALL FAKE.
Y-YES...! I'M OKAY...! I CAN DO THIS...!
WE BETTER GET A MOVE ON OURSELVES.
YOU LOOK INVESTED IN THIS, SO LET'S GO IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS THE GIRLS.

GOT IT!
JUST GOTTA MAKE SURE WE DON'T HIT THE CHECKPOINT BEFORE THEM.
TO BE CONTINUED

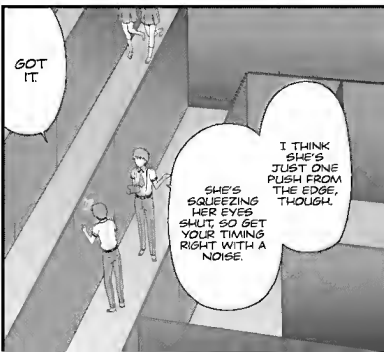
BAKA
TEST
SUMMON THE BEASTS

QUESTION 71
第71問


CLASS A


GEEZ... SHE'S TRYING SO HARD.

HERE GOES. SUMMON.
GYON


GOT IT.
I THINK SHE'S JUST ONE PUSH FROM THE EDGE, THOUGH.
SHE'S SQUEEZING HER EYES SHUT, SO GET YOUR TIMING RIGHT WITH A NOISE.

--!
--!!
GRAA!
FUNCH
I'LL... GET... YOU...

I-I'M OKAY...! I'M NOT SCARED ...!

...WE GIRLIES ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING. BYE.
I JUST IMAGINED THAT! NOTHING'S THERE...!
HAU...! URGH...!
OVER HERE, GIRLIE...

I WANT HER TO GET TO THE CHECKPOINT SAFELY, AND DEFEAT TSUNE-NATSU—OR IF THAT'S NO GOOD, TO AT LEAST WHITTLE THEM DOWN.
I WANT HIMEJI TO REALLY FEEL HOW SHE'S BEEN HELPING THE REST OF US.
HIMEJI'S PUTTING HER HEART AND SOUL INTO CLOSING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN HER AND THE REST OF US. I WANT HER EFFORT TO BE REWARDED.
YOU CAN DO IT...! YOU CAN DO IT, HIMEJI...!!
YOU CAN DO IT. YOU CAN DO IT...!
—HISA AKIHISA.
HE MAY HAVE CHOSEN SOMETHING THAT WOULDN'T MAKE ME SCREAM, BUT THE PAIN IS TOO MUCH...!!
--!!
WHOW
LISTEN UP, BLOCK-HEAD.

THINK SO?
OH, WAIT, SEE THE SHADOWY PART? THAT COULD BE ANOTHER PATH.
HUH? WHERE?
IZZAT A DEAD END?
W-WHAT IS IT, YUUJI?
ALL RIGHT, BUD.
LET'S GO CHECK IT OUT.
MAYBE THEY WENT AFTER HER WITH EVERY-BODY THEY GOT?
SURE IS. WELL, THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD DISQUALIFY HIMEJI IN NO TIME FLAT, BUT SHE'S STILL HOLDING OUT.
IT'S WEIRD THAT WE HAVEN'T RUN INTO ANY AVATARS AT ALL.
OH MAN... THAT'D MAKE IT EVEN WORSE FOR HIMEJI.
IT'S A BETTER STRATEGY THAN GOING AFTER A HARDER SCARE LIKE US.

...WILL BE POINTLESS IF HIMEJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA END UP MAKING IT THROUGH THE CHECKPOINT.
BUT THAT CRAZY STRATEGY ...
YUP. THAT TOTALLY SOUNDS LIKE THEM.
IT COULD ALSO BE THAT THEY'RE LEAVING US ALONE BECAUSE TSUNE-NATSU WANT TO TAKE US DOWN PERSONALLY.

...HUH?

WHAT, THEY MOVED THE WALLS?
I COULD'VE SWORN THERE WAS A HOLE HERE JUST A SECOND AGO...
WHAT'S UP AKIHISA?
TMP
TMP

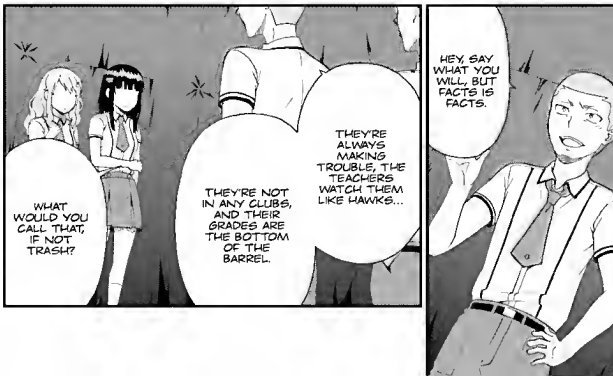
A CRACK...? I GUESS THEY WERE IN A HURRY AND GRABBED UP WHICHEVER PANEL THEY COULD?
...HIMEJI.
Y-YES? WHAT IS IT...?
KA-CHUNK
...CHECK-POINT IS PROBABLY THROUGH HERE.
HUH...?
GEH! TSUNEMURA!! THEY DIDN'T DISQUALIFY THESE CHICKS!!
WHAT THE HELL DO WE DO?!
NOT MUCH WE CAN DO BUT FIGHT THEM, MAN.
I HEAR TSUNE-NATSU! THAT'S THE FINISH LINE, THEN!
HIMEJI AND MISS KIRISHIMA MADE IT!

THEY MADE IT, HUH? NICE. HIMEJI REALLY HUNG IN THERE.
THANK GOD... OH THANK GOD...
TCH... SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY OBSTACLES BETWEEN US AND GIVING YOSHII AND SAKAMOTO A BEAT-DOWN.
WHO SCREWED UP?
THE THIRD-YEARS MUSTA BEEN IN SUCH A HURRY TO BLOCK OUR PATH...
...THAT THEY ACCIDENTALLY OPENED UP AN EXIT FOR THE GIRLS.
BAD LUCK FOR THEM.
MY BAD. I TAKE BACK WHAT I SAID.
YOSHII AND SAKAMOTO ARE TRASH, BUT THERE ARE A FEW COMPETENT SECOND-YEAR KIDS, SO WE GOTTA BE CAREFUL.
THERE, HAPPY NOW?
THESE TWO LOOK A LOT STRONGER THAN THOSE TWO PIECES OF GARBAGE.
MAN... YOU SAID THIS'D BE A PIECE OF CAKE 'CAUSE THE SECOND-YEARS ARE ALL DUMBOS!

AND THEY HANG WITH THOSE PIECES OF CRAP? WHAT A SHAME.
SO THESE TWO ARE LIKE JEWELS IN A TRASH HEAP, HUH?
WHY COULDN'T YOU SAY SO EARLIER? YEESH...
YOU'RE CLEARLY TRASH BUT I'M HURT THAT THEY WOULD LUMP ME IN WITH YOU.
OOH. BURN, YUUJI.
AWW, NO NEED TO BE SO HUMBLE.
UNLIKE SMART LITTLE OL' ME, YOU COULD TAKE TOP PLACE IN THE WORLD FOR TRASH.
WHAT'S THAT NOW? NO ONE EVEN COMES CLOSE TO RIVALING YOUR CRAPPINESS.
NAH, YOU GIVE OFF SO MUCH DUMB THAT PEOPLE THINK I CAUGHT IT.
I'M THE VICTIM.

ANYHOW, IT'S THANKS TO THAT TRASH GOING TO OUR SCHOOL THAT WE--
...THEY AREN'T ...
...TRASH.
YANK
...!!

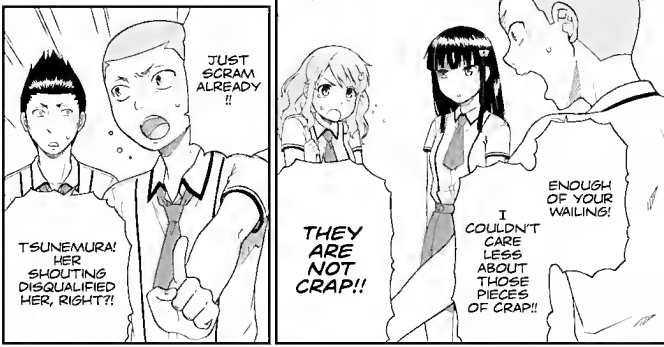
...THEY ARE NOT TRASH.
SAY WHAT?

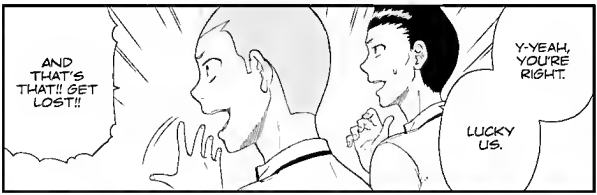

WHAT WOULD YOU CALL THAT, IF NOT TRASH?
THEY'RE NOT IN ANY CLUBS, AND THEIR GRADES ARE THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL.
THEY'RE ALWAYS MAKING TROUBLE, THE TEACHERS WATCH THEM LIKE HAWKS...
HEY, SAY WHAT YOU WILL, BUT FACTS IS FACTS.

YEEEAH, WE'VE DONE SOME CRAZY STUFF.
TICKS ME OFF TO HEAR THAT FROM HIM, BUT IT'S MOSTLY FACT.
STOOOM
I WANNA MAKE A COMEBACK, BUT I CAN'T DENY ANY OF THAT...!!
THEY'RE A DISGRACE TO THE WHOLE SCHOOL.
ALL THEY DO IS MAKE TROUBLE FOR THE REST OF US.
WHY CAN'T THEY GO BURY THEMSELVES IN A GARBAGE DUMP WHERE THEY BELONG?
GLIGH!

HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH AWFUL THINGS ?!!
THE HELL'S WITH YOU?!
YOU MAD?! HUH?!

YOU DON'T KNOW THEM AT ALL...!
BUT THAT DOESN'T GIVE YOU ANY RIGHT TO SAY SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS!!
AND YES, MAYBE THEY DO SOME-TIMES CAUSE TROUBLE ...!
YES, IT'S TRUE THAT AKIHISA AND SAKAMOTO MAY NOT HAVE VERY GOOD GRADES.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHY THEY CAUSE PROBLEMS!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW THEY'RE ACTUALLY VERY KIND...
SHUT YOUR TRAP!!
YOU GOT ANY IDEA HOW DUMB THEY ARE, CHICK?!
IT'S OBVIOUS THE SECOND YOU SEE THEIR GRADES!!
WHY CAN'T YOU SEE SOMEONE AS MORE THAN THEIR GRADES, AS MORE THAN A NUMBER?!
THERE'S SO MUCH MORE TO PEOPLE THAN THEIR GRADES...!!


JUST SCRAM ALREADY !!
TSUNEMURA! HER SHOUTING DISQUALIFIED HER, RIGHT?!
THEY ARE NOT CRAP!!
I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT THOSE PIECES OF CRAP!!
ENOUGH OF YOUR WAILING!


AND THAT'S THAT!! GET LOST!!
Y-YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
LUCKY US.

...LET'S GO, HIMEJI.
...OKAY.
...YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL US TWICE.
...THE SOONER WE DON'T HAVE TO LOOK AT YOUR AWFUL FACES, THE BETTER.

...BUT HERE I THOUGHT I WAS ONE SPLENDID PIECE OF TRASH.
NEWS TO ME. I CAN'T COMPARE TO YOU...
YOU HEARD HER, YUUJI. APPARENTLY WE'RE NICE GUYS?
AS ARE MOST OF OUR CLASSMATES.
...BUT I KINDA THOUGHT I WAS A TOTAL LOSER.
YEAH, I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON YOU...
YOU SAID IT.
WHAT A WASTE.
THERE'S NO REASON TO GET ALL HUNG UP ON THIS CONTEST.
HIMEJI TRIED SO DANG HARD, ONLY TO GET DISQUALIFIED OVER US TWO.
GEE WHIZ. WHAT A WASTE, HUH?
YUP. SORRY, YUUJI.
LET'S GET GOING, AKIHISA.

--BUT.
THE TEST OF COURAGE IS JUST A GAME. IT'S NOTHING TO GET HUNG UP ON.
THAT'S ANOTHER ONE YOU OWE ME.
IT'S ON NOW, ASSHOLES.

SHIT
YO, DUDES. HOPE YA WEREN'T WAITING LONG.
TOOK YA LONG ENOUGH, SAKAMOTO.
YOU SHOULDN'T MAKE YOUR BETTERS WAIT ON YOU.
OUR BAD.
WE HAD A LITTLE ERRAND TO RUN.
BUT I KNOW YOU THIRD-YEARS ARE BUSY PEOPLE. YOUR TIME'S PRECIOUS, RIGHT?
NO DUH. UNLIKE YOU MORONS.

WE'RE AT A CLEAR DISADVANTAGE NO MATTER HOW YOU SPIN IT.

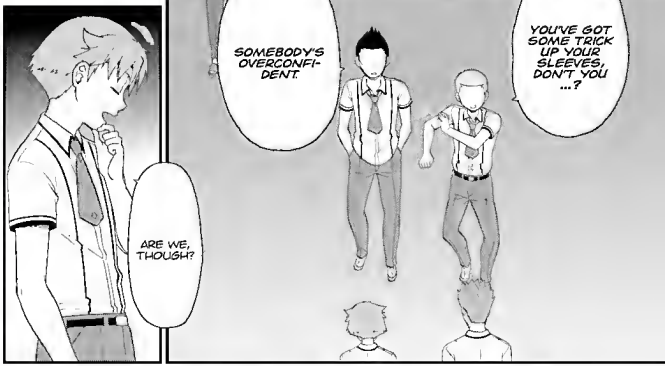
THAT SMUG FACE... THEY'VE GOT SCORES OVER 400, WHICH PUTS THEM AT THE TOP OF THEIR YEAR IN PHYSICS CLASS!
AND US? YUUJI'S SCORE IS A LITTLE UNDER 200. MINE ISN'T EVEN 70.

SO THE WINNERS SHOULD GET SOMETHING FROM THE LOSERS, RIGHT?

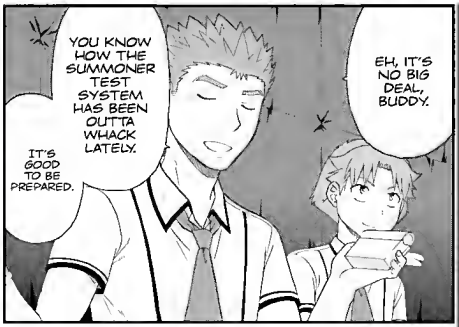
NOW THEN, YESTERDAY ...
...YOU GUYS SAID WE SHOULD MAKE THIS "NICE AND PERSONAL," REMEMBER?

WOULDN'T BLAME YOU IF YOU WANNA BACK OUT, THOUGH... LET'S SEE.
IF YOU GROVEL ON YOUR HANDS AND KNEES RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW--
YOU'RE ON.

LET'S TURN THIS BATTLE INTO A WAGER.
YOU'RE ON. A PROMISE IS A PROMISE.
SAY WHAT?
HMM...
WHAT SHOULD THE LOSERS HAVE TO DO, THEN?
Y-YEAH?
IF YOU SAY SO, WE'RE IN.
WHAT...?
WHY DON'T WE GO WITH... THE LOSERS HAVING TO DO ANYTHING THE WINNERS SAY?

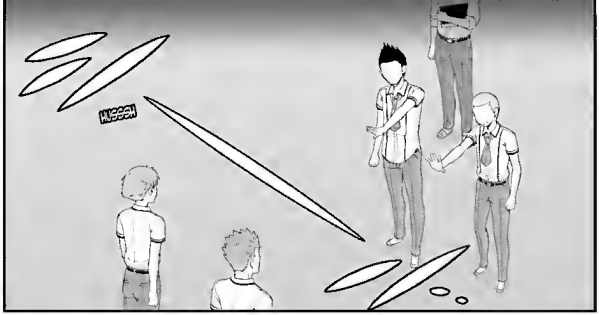

ARE WE, THOUGH?
SOMEBODY'S OVERCONFI-DENT.
YOU'VE GOT SOME TRICK UP YOUR SLEEVES, DON'T YOU ...?

THAT THING ABOUT CALLING A WORLD HISTORY TEACHER.
COULD HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHAT WE HEARD SAKAMOTO SAYING THROUGH THEIR CAMERA TO THE KIDS IN THEIR CLASSROOM.


IT'S GOOD TO BE PREPARED.
YOU KNOW HOW THE SUMMONER TEST SYSTEM HAS BEEN OUTTA WHACK LATELY.
EH, IT'S NO BIG DEAL, BUDDY.

OH YEAH, THESE GUYS HAVE BEEN WATCHING OUR CAMERA FEEDS TOO.

CAN'T BE ANYTHING MORE THAN A MONKEY WOULD COME UP WITH.
DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING.
...MEH. WHATEVER.
HERE WE GO.
WE'LL BEAT THE CRAP OUTTA YOU.
SUMON!
WHIP


WOOOH
WOOOH

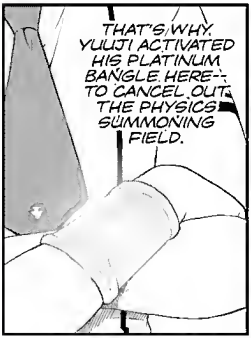
HUH? THAT'S STRANGE.
IS THERE REALLY A PROBLEM WITH THE SYSTEM?
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
HAAH? WHERE ARE OUR AVATARS?

..BUT I GUESS PHYSICS IS THE ONE SUBJECT THAT'S ACTING UP.
NOBODY KNOWS WHY..
OH, IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL, SIR.

SAKAMO-TO... YOU...!!
WHA ...?!
...WITH THE WORLD HISTORY TEACHER I HAD SENT UP HERE, JUST IN CASE.
NOTHIN' FOR IT. WE'LL HAVE TO FIGHT THIS BATTLE...
HMM? WHAT'S THE MATTER, GUYS?
YOU'RE BUSY, BUSY DUDES, AREN'T YOU?
I'D HATE FOR YOU TO WASTE YOUR TIME WAITING FOR ANOTHER TEACHER TO COME, YOU KNOW?
YOU ASSHOLE...!! YOU'RE BEHIND THIS...!!
AWESOME. THERE'S OUR WORLD HISTORY TEACHER, JUST IN TIME.
KLAK
ガラ。

THAT WAY, YOU'LL STILL KEEP YOUR ADVANTAGE.
YOU CAN FIGHT AKIHISA TWO-ON-ONE.

...HEY, CALM DOWN, BUDDY.
SINCE WE'RE SWITCHING SUBJECTS ON YOU, I WON'T SUMMON MY AVATAR.


THAT'S WHY YUUJI ACTIVATED HIS PLATINUM BANGLE HERE--TO CANCEL OUT THE PHYSICS SUMMONING FIELD.

PHYSICS
412
WE HAD ZERO CHANCE OF BEATING THEM IN PHYSICS, BUT OUR WORLD HISTORY SCORES ARE PRETTY CLOSE.
WORLD HISTORY
174
ASS A
SHUNPEI NATSUKAWA
PHYSICS
408
AS IF. THEY'RE RIGHT--THIS IS ALL PART OF YUUJI'S PLAN.
NATSUKAWA
WORLD HISTORY
163

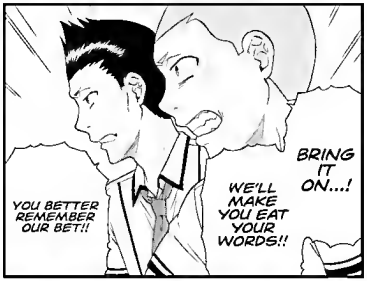
SNAP
...WHY YOU ...!!

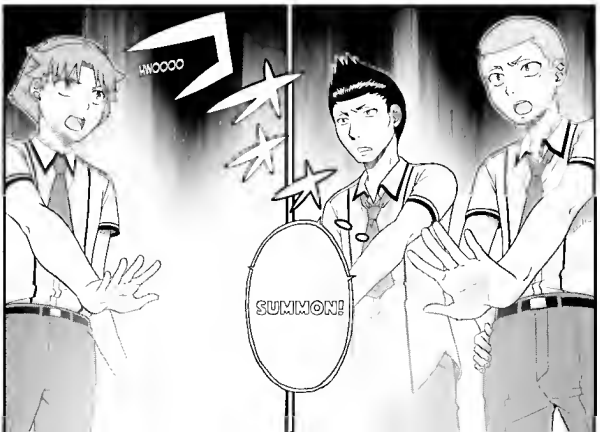
DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T FIGHT TRASH TWO-ON-ONE, UNLESS IT'S IN YOUR BEST SUBJECT?

I CAN'T IN GOOD CONSCIENCE TAKE PART IN THIS FIGHT.
OR IS THERE A PROBLEM?
ARE YOU SAYIN'...

OH? AHEM. ALL RIGHT, THEN.
YOU BETTER REMEMBER IT TOO, ASSHOLES.
...WE'RE READY, SIR.

WHILE THE SUBJECT CHANGE IMPROVES OUR CHANCES, IT'S TRUE THAT WE'RE STILL AT A DISADVANTAGE.
YUUJI CAN'T SUMMON HIS AVATAR WHILE HE HAS A SUMMONING FIELD UP.


YOU BETTER REMEMBER OUR BET!!
WE'LL MAKE YOU EAT YOUR WORDS!!
BRING IT ON...!


HNOOOO
SUMMON!

CLASS A
JUUSA JU
TSUNEMURA
WORLD HISTORY
144
CLASS A
SHUNPEI
NATSUKAWA
WORLD HISTORY
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RWOOOOOO
CLASS F
AKIHISA
YOSHII
WORLD HISTORY
123

TCH. IS IT FROM GETTING JUMPED BY THAT FOUR-EYES?
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'TA PICKED THAT FIGHT WITH US YESTERDAY.
ABOUT AVERAGE FOR ANY THIRD-YEAR, HUH? LOOKS LIKE YOU LOST A CHUNK OF POINTS THERE.
I GOTTA THANK KUBO FOR ATTACKING THEM.
BOTH TSUNE-NATSU AND ME LOST POINTS IN OUR FIGHT YESTERDAY.
SO DON'T GO COM-PLAINING ABOUT TWO-ON-ONE BEING UNFAIR!!
LUNGE
REMEMBER, YOU GUYS SCREWED WITH THE SUBJECT.
WHATEVER. READY FOR THE FINAL BATTLE, YOSHI!?
CONTINUED IN VOLUME 14

BAKA & TEST:
SUMMON THE BEASTS
Volume 13

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BAKA TO TEST TO SHOUKANJUU
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